

Press release

Change of Upper Management at Ploucquet Holding GmbH and Sympatex Technologies GmbH

Unterföhring, 18 January 2010. Starting on 14 January, Michael Kamm has taken over as Chief Executive Officer of Ploucquet Holding GmbH and Sympatex Technologies GmbH. At the same time Richard Lohner took over the position of Chief Financial Officer at the Group companies. The previous managing directors, Thomas Baierlein and Udo von Reinersdorff, are leaving the Ploucquet Group, in order to devote themselves to other business concerns.

Starting immediately, **Michael Kamm** (50) will be hold the position of Chief Executive Officer of Ploucquet Holding GmbH and Sympatex Technologies GmbH and will be in charge of Sales and Marketing as well as Development and Production. Mr. Kamm looks back on 20 years of experience as a manager and independent businessman in the textile, sporting goods and consumer goods industries.

After completing his business studies at the Ludwigs-Maximilians University in Munich (degree in Business Administration), he began his professional career at Arthur Andersen Business Consultancy. In 1989 he acquired the North Sails Windsurfing Group through a management buyout, restructured and sold it to the sporting goods and textile company Mistral Sports Group, and steered both companies as CEO to world leadership. In 1998 he took over the commercial management of sporting goods manufacturer Marker Deutschland GmbH as interim manager and supervised the firm's restructuring. From 1999 to 2003 he founded and headed business consultancy m2b GmbH, before becoming Chairman of the Board of Directors and later Sole Director of publicly traded firm Etienne Aigner AG. In this capacity Michael Kamm led the successful turnaround of the renowned fashion, textile, and leather goods corporation, while at the same time considerably strengthening international awareness and the image of the Etienne Aigner brand. After leaving Aigner he first served as Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Nici Accessoires Group and, before joining the Ploucquet

Group, was active as managing partner at ANTEVORTE Performance Management GmbH.

Starting immediately, **Richard Lohner** (46), as Chief Financial Officer, will be in charge of the departments of Finance and Accounting, as well as Controlling, Purchases, Personnel and Logistics at the Ploucquet Group. Mr. Lohner has over 20 years experience in textile and consumer goods companies and has supervised firms under restructuring as CFO and Finance Director.

The trained banker with a degree in Business Administration (VWA Munich) started of as corporate customer advisor at two banks in Munich, before switching to publicly traded textile and clothing manufacturer ESCADA AG in 1991. At ESCADA he held various positions in the Finance Department, before heading Treasury and Investor Relations in 1995 and finally becoming Finance Director in 2001. In this capacity he was in charge of the inter-departmental management of the Corporate Finance Department, as well as M&A activities and restructuring measures. From 2007 to his departure in 2008, Richard Lohner was additionally a member of the Supervisory Board at ESCADA AG as elected senior staff representative. In 2008 he became the CFO of Bäumler AG, and in 2009 took on the position of Sole Managing Director at the successful firm he started up, Bäumler Fashion GmbH.

On behalf of the shareholders Alexander von Mellenthin, CEO of Annex Capital, commented:

“With Michael Kamm and Richard Lohner the Ploucquet Group has been able to secure two personally and professionally highly qualified manager, who have earned themselves outstanding reputations as brand and textile experts and managers experienced in restructuring.” David Klein, Vice President at Morgan Stanley, further explained: “By reorganising management, the shareholders are fully confident that the Ploucquet Group will meet all the necessary conditions going forward to take advantage of and expand the opportunities presented in the areas of Sympatex Technologies and Ploucquet Textiles in the best possible way.” The shareholders thank the previous managing directors, who will continue to serve the company in a consulting capacity, and who will see the change through constructively.

About Ploucquet:

The registered seat of Ploucquet Holding GmbH is Unterföhring near Munich. The company was founded in 1806 as a textiles trading company by Christoph Friedrich Ploucquet in Heidenheim. Today the Ploucquet Group is an international corporation and specialist in innovative textile solutions in the core areas of membrane systems, lamination, coating and refinement.

The firm's strong brands and competence with textiles add up to consistent high quality in its products and services. The fields of application of Ploucquet brands and products span from the fashionable clothing and accessories industry to active and leisurewear, to outdoor, sports and protective clothing, to the technical demands of the automotive industry, medical technology and many other areas of application.

Its subsidiary, Sympatex Technologies GmbH, as a leading brand in Europe, develops functional membrane and laminate systems for clothing, shoes and accessories.

About Sympatex:

As a leading supplier worldwide, Sympatex® Technologies has been the epitome of high-tech functional systems in clothing, shoes and accessories. Sympatex membrane systems are highly breathable, wind- and waterproof and climate controlled. They furthermore adhere to a comprehensive comfort concept within their various fields of application.

Environmental friendliness is a matter of course: All Sympatex membranes are 100% recyclable, bluesign®-certified as well as being ecologically certified with the German "Öko-Tex-Standard-100". Sympatex Technologies has a presence of around 20 sales offices and branches and is a GmbH entity within the Ploucquet business group.

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