

UNIFRAX ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION DEAL

Unifrax I LLC (“Unifrax”), the Niagara Falls, NY based manufacturer of ceramic fiber insulation products, announced today that it has entered into an agreement to acquire Brightcross Manufacturing Ltd. and Brightcross Insulation Ltd. (together “Brightcross”). Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Brightcross is located in Derby, in the United Kingdom. It is the leading supplier of vacuum formed ceramic fiber products in the U.K. and also does a substantial amount of export business into the EU. The business has approximately 60 employees who will be joining the Unifrax European team.

David E. Brooks, Unifrax President and CEO, comments “Brightcross is a business with a great reputation, a proud heritage and excellent people. We have been a supplier to them for many years and respect their capabilities. Brightcross will strengthen our European vacuum forming business and improve our competitive position in the European market”.

Brooks added “This acquisition represents another positive step in the continued implementation of the long-term growth strategy for our Company”. The acquisition is expected to close in the third quarter.

Unifrax I LLC is a leading global supplier of insulation products that are used in many high-temperature industrial, automotive and fire protection applications. The Company has 17 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America and employs approximately 1,300 people worldwide.

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KERNEOS INVESTS €4 MILLION IN NEW BRIQUETTING LINE.

Neuilly sur Seine, 9th July 2010- Kerneos, the leading producer of calcium aluminates, has announced the investment of €4million in a new briquetting line at its Dunkirk factory in Northern France. Kerneos is a major purchaser of bauxite and is facing increasing difficulties in using the qualities of bauxite available from its traditional sources, principally in China and Greece.

Changes in calcining technology used to process bauxite in China and supply frailties in Greece require Kerneos to take increasingly higher percentages of fine bauxites from both sources rather than the large block bauxite that is ideally suited to its furnace technology.

Pierre Baillagou, VP manufacturing commented: “The reduced availability of large block material requires us to make our own blocks to guarantee our ability to meet the growing demand for our cements. Block materials are essential in maintaining high levels of energy efficiency. We have made strenuous efforts in recent years to minimise our energy consumption and it is not acceptable to allow our energy efficiency or product quality to fall because of raw material supply difficulties. Whilst briquetting raw materials adds to our costs it was the least expensive solution to the quality and supply problems we face and by far the most acceptable from an environmental point of view. In spite of these constraints of raw

materials, we confirm our commitment to improve the quality of our products and services.”

The new plant is currently under construction and will come on stream in the second quarter 2011.

The reference supplier of calcium aluminates, Kerneos, a MATERIS Group company, offers a full range of high technology calcium aluminate binders to its customers (Refractory and Steel industries, Building Chemistry, Wastewater industries as well as other Technical Industries). These are sold under the trademarks CIMENT FONDU®, SECAR®, TERNAL®, PERAMIN®, CAL-COAT®, LDSF® and OPTIMET™.

Combining the benefits of a global industrial presence with a world wide supply chain network, Kerneos provides its customers with tailored services including dedicated local technical support, as well as reliable and rapid supply on all continents.

For more information : www.kerneos.com

MATERIS, a world leader in Building Construction Specialty Chemicals, is organized into four businesses: admixtures, aluminates, mortars and paints. MATERIS employs 8,800 people in 50 countries, with a turnover close to 1,700 M€.

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