

Porvair signs up for gasification clean-up project

Porvair plc is to participate in a US\$2.5 million project for the gasification of lignite coals to produce liquid fuels, hydrogen and power, as well as carbon dioxide for enhanced oil recovery.

The project, led by the Energy & Environmental Research Center at the University of North Dakota, is being co-sponsored by the US Department of Energy (DOE). Porvair is one of a number of industrial consortium partners involved in the project. One of the key objectives of the program is to develop a high temperature gas clean up of particulate, sulphur, mercury and trace elements.

"We are delighted to have signed this collaboration agreement. This project will further Porvair's experience and market leading position in the hot gas clean-up market. Gasification clean-up is one of our key growth opportunities and is an important technology to enable the world's plentiful coal resources to be used in a clean and efficient way," said Ben Stocks, CEO of Porvair.

For further information, visit www.porvair.com

Vestergaard Frandsen acquires Belgium's Prime Water International

Vestergaard Frandsen, a Swiss-headquartered company specialising in disease control textiles, has acquired a majority share of Prime Water International (formerly known as Prime Membrane Technologies NV), a 15-year old Belgian company with expertise in the development of advanced membranes for water purification products.

PWI, in close cooperation with the Flemish State Research Institute (VITO), has developed a new generation of low pressure membranes for water purification products, including those currently used in Vestergaard Frandsen's LifeStraw Portable water purifier products.

"The technology created by PWI is extremely innovative, and this purchase will propel Vestergaard Frandsen to the absolute forefront of the ongoing technology race in water purification," said Mikkel Vestergaard Frandsen, president and CEO of Vestergaard Frandsen.

"I'm thrilled to announce this important acquisition, which will allow Vestergaard Frandsen to remain the world-leader in point-of-use water filtration systems that require no repeat interventions," added Vestergaard Frandsen.

Founded in Denmark in 1957, Vestergaard Frandsen specialises in complex emergency response and disease-control products. The company has licensed production facilities in India, Vietnam and Thailand. Vestergaard Frandsen operates a Humanitarian Entrepreneurship business model, believing that business is for profit, but that profit must be for a purpose.

For further information, visit www.vestergaard-frandsen.com and www.lifestraw.com

Stricter environmental standards boost Tamfelt

Finnish filter fabrics specialist Tamfelt says stricter environmental standards have boosted demand for its filter fabrics - a trend that the company feels will continue for the foreseeable future.

In 2007, the favourable market situation for fabric filters continued in the mining industry, while demand from the paper and pulp industries exceeded normal levels.

The group's 2007 net sales increased 8.1% to €167.5 million, while profit for the period at €20.8 million was almost unchanged from last year.

Looking ahead, Tamfelt expects the mining market to remain positive for iron and colour metals, increasing the demand for filter fabrics. Tamfelt also believes that keener environmental awareness and more stringent environmental standards worldwide will boost the demand for filter fabrics and open up new opportunities to increase sales.

For further information, visit www.tamfelt.com

In Brief

- **BHS Sonthofen** has laid the foundation stone for a new €2 million production hall for the company's filtration division in Sonthofen, Germany. The new facility will have 1200 m² of manufacturing space, 50 tons of crane capacity and 300 m² of office space. www.bhs-sonthofen.de
- **Cummins Inc** will add approximately 500 professional employees, many of them engineers, in downtown Columbus, Ohio over the next two years. As a result, Cummins has agreed to lease an office building which is currently being built. The four-story, 100 000 square foot building is scheduled to be completed late in the first quarter of 2009. Cummins currently has approximately 5500 employees in Columbus, along with an additional 900 contract workers. The new space, two blocks from the company's headquarters, will allow Cummins to consolidate its employees in fewer locations in the city and make room for new workers expected as part of Cummins' growth plans. www.cummins.com
- **Kinesis Ltd** has acquired Langenfeld, Germany-based **Abimed Analysen Technik GmbH**. Abimed has been serving the German chromatography and liquid handling markets for more than 30 years. The acquisition of Abimed provides Kinesis with a platform to penetrate Europe's largest market. www.kinesis.co.uk
- The recently released 2008 **Mann-Filter** catalogue includes more than 600 new filter types. New products include urea filters for trucks with SCR technology, and drying agent boxes with coalescence filters for improved system protection. www.mann-filter.com
- **NanoDynamics Inc** is increasing production of its Cell-Pore products at its Buffalo, New York manufacturing facility to meet growing demand in the waste gas odour control market. The Cell-Pore ceramics technology offers an effective media platform for customers developing advanced biological filtration odour control solutions for gas remediation systems in industrial and municipal treatment facilities. www.nanodynamics.com