



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Strong Growth expected for Specialty Group's Composites division.

Melbourne, Australia – January, 19th 2009 - The Specialty Group's resin impregnated fibreglass manufacturing division, Australian Composite's Pty Ltd, is predicting stronger than expected growth in 2009 due to a growing global demand for its UV curable resin impregnated fibreglass prepregs called AUSPREG UV™, which are used in the manufacture of parts for marine & transport applications, products for the renewable energy sector including wind turbine blades and repairs solar panel and photovoltaic Voltaic cell backing materials, repair and reinforcement materials for infrastructure in the oil and gas industry, and ballistic materials for Military applications including armoured vehicle plating, bullet proof vest inserts, and in-situ rapid battlefield repair.

As part of the Company's expansion plans, it has recently appointed veteran composites specialist Mr. Tapan Kumar Chakraborty based in West Bengal, India, as Vice President – Business Development for India and The Middle East. Mr. Chakraborty comes to the company with 28 years experience in the composites industry primarily in moulding, resin infusion, and manufacturing of composite parts.

CEO for The Specialty Group, Daniel Leipnik, is delighted to welcome Mr. Chakraborty to spearhead the company's sales & marketing efforts in the region. "The market demand for composite prepregs in the Middle East and India are of the fastest growing in the world. Mr. Chakraborty is indeed a renowned specialist in this field and securing him for the position automatically opens the doors to some of the largest companies in his region", Leipnik advises.

Mr. Chakraborty believes that the Company's technology is an incredible breakthrough for the Composites industry. "This advanced technology represents a great opportunity for many companies (here) to reduce their manufacturing costs and increase their productivity by being able to make products faster," Chakraborty admits. "Auspreg UV is a remarkable new option for composites parts manufacturers. It literally means that a boat hull or a truck fender or a train skirt can be made in a matter of minutes instead of up to ten hours through conventional methods. In a global market place that demands constant cost savings, especially now, there is an immediate solution at hand that's going to make that happen", He adds. "I think you'll see companies turn to Auspreg UV™ in place of other composite materials very quickly".

And Chakraborty may just be right his predictions as early estimates from new clients suggest orders for Australian Composite's UV curable prepreg technology could be as high as five hundred tons worth around \$6-7 million dollars in India in the first year alone.

Composite parts are rapidly replacing the use of metals in many industrial products where light weight and strength is required. The Specialty Group's range of UV (light) curing prepregs facilitates rapid manufacturing of composite parts and products in minutes without expensive tooling, lengthy cure times, and the need to ship or store raw materials in refrigerated containers.

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