

know-how, leading the way for specialty conductive carbons.

Imerys Graphite and Carbon, which belongs to Imerys, has a strong history in the production of high quality natural and synthetic graphite powders, conductive carbon blacks, silicon-carbon composites and water-based dispersions.

Germany/USA

Dorfner Acquires US-Based Firm

■ Gebrüder Dorfner GmbH & Co. Kaolin- und Kristallquarzsand-Werke KG, a successful family-owned company headquartered in Hirschau/DE, acquired all of the assets ACS International, based in Tucson/US. The new Dorfner company will be known as ACS International Products LP and will also assume responsibility for future US sales of the products that Dorfner produces in Germany for the construction chemicals and composite materials segments.

A privately held business with revenues in the double-digit millions USD, ACS International has been one of the USA's top manufacturers of decorative, organic fillers made from polyester-resin granulates for some years. The products are primarily used in the production of bath and sanitary products, furniture and other cast polymer applications. In addition to both being family-owned, Dorfner and ACS also uphold

similar company philosophies. They both focus particularly on product innovation and individualization; new solutions to meet customer demands are developed in close cooperation with the client and continually improved until market-ready.

Dr Erich Oetzel, CEO of Dorfner, said: "with this acquisition, Dorfner will be able to meet two of its organizational goals simultaneously: for one, to significantly expand the international activities of Dorfner, and secondly to strengthen the strategic business area of composite materials."

Germany

SGL Group Sold Former Performance Products Business Unit

■ SGL Group signed the sale and purchase agreement to sell its cathodes, furnace linings, and carbon electrodes (CFL/CE) business to funds advised by Triton. The two parties have agreed on an enterprise value (cash and debt free) of EUR 250 million, which, after deduction of standard debt-like items (mainly pension provisions) as well as other customary adjustments, results in cash proceeds of more than EUR 230 million. The final proceeds will be determined based on the balance sheet at closing. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, mainly relating to antitrust approvals. Closing is expected in the 4th quar-

ter 2017. The sale will result in a book profit of approx. EUR 130 million in the current fiscal year of SGL Group.

Triton seeks to invest in and support the positive development of medium-sized businesses headquartered in Europe, focusing on businesses in the Industrial, Business Services and Consumer/Health sectors. The 31 companies currently in Triton's portfolio have combined sales of around EUR 14.4 billion and around 89 000 employees.

Following the closing of the transaction, approximately 30 employees in Germany and 600 employees in Poland, who are based at the two production facilities in Nowy Sacz and Raciborz, will move from SGL Group to their new owner. With regard to the closing of the sale of the graphite electrode business to Showa Denko, final discussions with the US authority on merger clearance are ongoing. The outcome of these discussions will not have any impact on the agreed enterprise value or the expected cash proceeds.

Nevertheless, it cannot be ruled out, from today's point of view, that closing may slip into the beginning of the 4th quarter 2017. With this transaction, the former business unit Performance Products (PP) has been sold at a total Enterprise Value of EUR 600 million and approx. EUR 130 mil-

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