



IPTE signs letter of intent to acquire Platzgummer GmbH.

EMBARGO to 08 January 2008, 18.00

Genk, 8 January 2008

IPTE announces that it has signed a letter of intent with the shareholders of Platzgummer GmbH, an automation company, to acquire 80 % of the shares with effect from 1 January 2008 and the remaining 20 % in 2010.

Platzgummer GmbH specializes in developing and producing customized automation solutions. The company is located at Karlsfeld, close to Munich (Germany). Platzgummer's customers are German and international suppliers to the automobile, metal and packaging industries.

The company is owned by four persons, two of whom (Mr Platzgummer and Mr Wieland) are active as managing directors of the company. Both will remain in the company management. The company had stable sales between 8 and 10 million EUR with some 45 direct and hired employees. The company shows a net after tax profit for between 4 and 5 percent during these years.

Mr Baren: "We are delighted that Platzgummer will be part of the IPTE group. The company has an outstanding reputation and a strong team of mechanical developers. In the past we have seen just how difficult it is to attract competent mechanical developers. The acquisition of Platzgummer gives us a strong mechanical department which is complementary to our present one. The fact that Messrs Platzgummer and Wieland have agreed to stay on as managers ensures continuity, both internally and towards customers.

Mr Platzgummer: "Joining the IPTE group is a challenge to strengthen our market position. As an independent company it was not always easy to convert our knowledge and skills into projects for larger customer groups. As a part of the IPTE group we believe we have a firmer footing and can grow faster."



The company

IPTE is a worldwide supplier of automated production equipment for the electronics industry and a provider of manufacturing services to electronic and industrial markets in Europe.

The company is sub-divided into two divisions. IPTE 'Factory Automation' is a market leader in the supply of production equipment for the electronics industry. The division develops manual, semi-automatic and turnkey automation systems for producing, testing and handling of printed circuit boards and for final assembly work.

The 'Contract Manufacturing' division, Connect Systems Group, offers high quality, cost-effective production services to the professional industry. Activities include the production of cables and cable trees, PCB assembly and testing, production of semi-manufactures and final product assembly.

The IPTE Group's references include Barco, ASML, Alcatel-Lucent, Bosch, Delphi, Philips, Ericsson, Flextronics, Jabil, Johnson Controls, Lear, Continental, SCI-Sanmina, Siemens VDO and Visteon.

Today the company employs around 2,500 people in facilities in Europe, the United States and Asia.

Shares in the company, which was founded in 1992, are traded on NYSE Euronext Brussels. (www.euronext.com)

Note to the media, not for publication:

For more information on IPTE and this press release, please visit our website. We will be delighted to send you some supplementary information or photo material on simple request.

Financial calendar:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Announcement year results 2007: | 21 February 2008 |
| General Assembly: | 29 April 2008 |
| Announcement first quarter results: | 15 May 2008 |

Investor Relations:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Huub Baren | Hugo Ciroux |
| CEO | CFO |

IPTE NV
Geleenlaan 5, 3600 Genk, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0)89 623 000
Fax: +32 (0)89 623 010
www.ipte.com
E-mail: ir@ipte.com