

## **IPTE acquires TAF3 in Estonia**

EMBARGO until 29 July 2008, 18.00

Genk, 29 July 2008

IPTE NV, (Euronext Brussel: IPT) acquires as of July 29, 2008 100 percent of the shares of TAF3 an Estonian Automation company located in Tallinn. TAF3 is an automation and test company employing 30 highly qualified mechanical, electrical and software engineers with an average experience in the telecom and automotive industry of more than 10 years.

The acquisition of TAF3 in Tallinn is part of IPTE's automation strategy to have a strong presence in the Nordic region to support their customers.

Mr. Aivar Elbrecht, general manager of TAF3: "We are happy to join the IPTE network. We believe we are together creating a tremendous added value for IPTE and TAF3. Our technical abilities were limited by our lack of international presence. By joining the IPTE group, we become part of a major international automation player with strong presence all over Europe, Asia and USA. This will bring us the International dimension we were aiming before."

Mr. Luc Switten, CEO IPTE: "This acquisition fits perfectly in the global account strategy of IPTE automation. It gives IPTE the engineering capabilities for the telecom and automation industry with a local competence en supply center in the Nordic area. It brings a win-win situation for both parties. We welcome all employees of TAF3 in our group. "

The acquisition price for 100 percent of the shares amounts to 600.000 Euro.

## The company

IPTE is a global supplier of automated production equipment for the electronics industry and a supplier of production services to electronics and industry markets in Europe.

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

The 'IPTE Contract Manufacturing' division, Connect Systems, offers cost-efficient, high quality production services to the professional industry. The activities consist of 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 companies such as Barco, ASML, Alcatel-Lucent, Bosch, Delphi, Philips, Ericsson, Flextronics, Jabil, Johnson Controls, Lear, Continental, SCI-Sanmina, Siemens VDO and Visteon.



The company currently employs around 2,500 staff, at its facilities in Europe, the United States and Asia.

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

Note for the media, not for publication:

For more information about IPTE and this press release, please consult the website. We would be pleased to send you additional information and photographic material, upon request.

<u>Financial calendar:</u> Announcement of half-year results: Announcement of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter results

Investor Relations: Luc Switten CEO Hugo Ciroux

13 August 2008

13 November 2008

CFO

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