



Sika Finanz AG

Zugerstrasse 50

CH-6341 Baar

Tel. ++41/ 41/ 768 68 00

Fax ++41/ 41/ 768 68 50

31 May 2000

Contact: Kurt Ledermann, Finance and Controlling

Tel. ++41/ 79/ 370 00 66

Press Release

Free for immediate publication

Sika takes over 100 % of Sika-Trocac

Sika, a group active in the field of process technology for the construction and industrial sectors, is acquiring the 50 % stake owned by HT Troplast AG, Germany, in the joint venture Sika-Trocac AG. The company Sika-Trocac AG will in future be run as an independent subsidiary of Sika Finanz AG, and will be included in Sika Finanz AG's scope of consolidation.

With production plants in Düringen (Switzerland) and Troisdorf (Germany), Sika-Trocac generates sales of approx. CHF 150 m and has been recording rising profits in recent years. Sika-Trocac employs a 340-strong workforce, and is one of Europe's leading suppliers of plastic seal sheeting for construction projects.

Through this acquisition Sika is securing complete freedom of action in the field of flexible insulation and seals, whether on the construction side (sealing systems for flat roofs) or in the field of civil engineering (special sheeting). In addition to these traditional businesses in the roofing and tunnelling sectors, Sika Trocac has seen disproportionately strong growth in new markets (e.g. swimming pool sheeting, seals for chemical catchment basins, large-scale advertising). New and modified seal sheeting, which possess considerable growth potential, have been developed and are ready for the market. This includes, for example, cladding for petrol tanks, which is the first time in Germany that plastic sheeting has been approved for this purpose, seal sheeting for compact roofs and PVC sheeting that does not contain softening agents. Sika has long-standing experience in the field of plastic seal sheeting within the framework of its core competencies of sealing, bonding, damping, reinforcing and protecting. The take over is subject to the approval of the German Merger Control Office.

