

The SGL Group and Hitachi Chemical: Joint Sponsors of the AABC 2011 in Mainz

Wiesbaden/Germany, May 31, 2011. The SGL Group – The Carbon Company – and Hitachi Chemical are the joint sponsors of the Advanced Automotive Battery Conference (AABC) 2011 in Mainz. The conference is to be held from June 6 to 10 in the Rheingoldhalle, Congress Centrum, Mainz, Germany.

For both companies, the decision to sponsor the AABC together is the next stage in intensifying their collaboration. The SGL Group and Hitachi Chemical enjoy a long-standing partnership in the area of batteries for the end-consumer market (mobile devices).

In order to meet the growing demand for lithium ion batteries, the SGL Group and Hitachi Chemical intend to establish a supply chain in Europe based on the SGL Group's existing anode material production. Demand in this area is primarily driven by the introduction of electric vehicles and stationary batteries to be used in the future in Europe for solar energy systems and wind turbines, for example.

The extension of the cooperation framework between the two companies for lithium ion batteries (LIB) in Europe agreed in June 2010 will soon ensure the supply of anode material solutions for LIBs to the European automotive and industrial sectors. This will give customers in Europe access to the best technology on the market at competitive prices and produced in Europe.

On June 7, Tatsuya Nishida, R&D Manager at Hitachi Chemical, will give a presentation to the Large Lithium Ion Battery Technology and Application (LLIBTA) Symposium of the AABC 2011, entitled "Anode Materials for Large-Format Battery and Next Generation."



About SGL Group – The Carbon Company

SGL Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of carbon-based products. It has a comprehensive portfolio ranging from carbon and graphite products to carbon fibers and composites. SGL Group's core competencies are its expertise in high-temperature technology as well as its applications and engineering know-how gained over many years. These competencies enable the Company to make full use of its broad material base. SGL Group's carbon-based materials combine several unique properties such as electrical and thermal conductivity, heat and corrosion resistance as well as high mechanical strength combined with low weight. Due to the paradigm shift in the use of materials, there is a growing demand for SGL Group's high-performance materials and products from an increasing number of industries. Carbon and graphite products are used whenever other materials such as steel, aluminum, copper, plastics, wood etc. fail due to their limited properties. Products from SGL Group are used predominantly in the steel, aluminum, automotive, chemical and glass/ceramics industries. However, manufacturers in the semiconductor, battery, solar/wind energy, environmental protection, aerospace and defense industries as well as in the nuclear energy industry also figure among the Company's customers.

With 45 production sites in Europe, North America and Asia as well as a service network covering more than 100 countries, SGL Group is a company with a global presence. In 2010, the Company's workforce of around 6,300 generated sales of €1,382 million. The Company's head office is located in Wiesbaden/Germany.

Important note:

This press release may contain forward-looking statements based on the information currently available to us and on our current projections and assumptions. By nature, forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, as a consequence of which actual developments and results can deviate significantly from these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not to be understood as guarantees. Rather, future developments and results depend on a number of factors; they entail various risks and unanticipated circumstances and are based on assumptions which may prove to be inaccurate. These risks and uncertainties include, for example, unforeseeable changes in political, economic, legal, and business conditions, particularly relating to our main customer industries, such as electric steel production, to the competitive environment, to interest rate and exchange rate fluctuations, to technological developments, and to other risks and unanticipated circumstances. Other risks that in our opinion may arise include price developments, unexpected developments connected with acquisitions and subsidiaries, and unforeseen risks associated with ongoing cost savings programs. SGL Group does not intend or assume any responsibility to revise or otherwise update these forward-looking statements.

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