

## Press Release

### **ALTANA Chemie AG**

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## **ALTANA Coatings & Sealants begins production of sealants in South America**

**Wesel/ Porriño (Spain), September 28, 2004** – To strengthen its presence in South America, La Artística, sealants manufacturer and subsidiary of the ALTANA Coatings & Sealants business unit, recently concluded a strategic licensing agreement with Uruguayan company Promak. Within the terms of this agreement, Promak will henceforth produce in Uruguay water-based sealants for the south american market previously manufactured in Europe by La Artística. With over 20 years of experience as a producer of specialty products in the field of printing and coating, Promak is optimally placed in all the regional markets.

Thanks to the new research and production site at Montevideo, La Artística will in future be able to meet individual demands of the Mercosur market by developing special sealant solutions based on standard products with a global license. Initial projects are still restricted to the segments of food and general product packaging. By the end of the year, however, the company will also be producing sealants for 2-piece beer and beverage cans.

Once this production goal has been achieved to the satisfaction of all concerned, it is planned to extend the licensing agreement to other ALTANA Chemie product lines. Experts from both companies are already working closely together to optimize quality, innovation and service and so make the South American business of La Artística and ALTANA Chemie a success. "The agreement with Promak is in line with the strategic objective of ALTANA Coatings & Sealants: to achieve the closest possible proximity to the customer in all of the world's packaging markets," asserts Business Unit Manager of ALTANA Coatings & Sealants, Dr. Guido Forstbach.

*ALTANA Chemie develops and produces high-quality, innovative products in the specialty chemicals business. The specialty chemicals activities of the ALTANA Group as a globally active group of companies are consolidated in ALTANA Chemie AG. ALTANA Chemie AG with its headquarters in Wesel, Germany, is the holding company for the three business units of Additives & Instruments, Coatings & Sealants and Electrical Insulation. ALTANA Chemie provides innovative and environmentally compatible solutions, along with the appropriate special products, for coatings manufacturers, paint and plastics processors, and the electronics industry. The range of products includes additives, special coatings, sealants, compounds, impregnating agents, and testing and measuring equipment. In its target markets the company occupies a leading position in terms of quality, product solutions, innovation and service. In 2003 ALTANA Chemie, with over 2,600 employees, achieved sales of €775m. Sectorally, therefore, ALTANA Chemie is among the most innovative, fast-developing and profitable chemical corporations in the world.*

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