

Press Release

Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to Qualify ELANTAS Beck India Lab for Testing to UL Standards

Pune/ India, February 1, 2008 - Underwriters Laboratories (UL), one of the world's largest Certification Organization, today announced that it has qualified and accredited the In-house Laboratory of ELANTAS Beck India Ltd. (EBIL), the Indian Group Company of ALTANA AG, Germany.

Based on this Accreditation, EBIL will now be able to test their products for Electrical Insulation Systems to globally acceptable UL standards. EBIL develops, manufactures, and markets Electrical Insulation Products such as Wire Enamels, Insulating Varnishes, Impregnating Resins, and Casting/Potting Compounds used in electric equipments like motors, alternators, generators, switch-gears, components, sensors, transformers, etc. These electrical and electronic equipments/components can be found in electric power utilization, auto-electricals, household appliances, electronic equipments, etc.

UL India and EBIL inaugurated UL Accredited In-house Laboratory at EBIL's Pimpri Works in Pune on January 23, 2008. On this occasion, Dr Matthias L. Wolfgruber, CEO, ALTANA AG and Dr. Wolfgang Schütt, President Division Electrical Insulation were present.

On this occasion, Mr. R. A Venkitachalam, General Manager & Managing Director, UL India, said "UL is proud to partner with EBIL in qualifying this test facility in India. Not only does this add to UL's existing test facilities, but it will also decrease the turn around times that customers expect for testing".

Mr. M. Tandon, Managing Director, EBIL, said, "We hope to further develop this lab so we can expand its scope to include testing for the Electrical Industry. Till now we had to send samples to other UL Labs in Taiwan and US, but we will now be able to shorten our development cycles by doing testing locally in India.

About UL:

Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is an independent, not-for-profit product safety certification organization that has been testing products and writing Standards for Safety for over a century. UL evaluates more than 19,000 types of products, components, materials and systems annually with 21 billion UL Marks appearing on 71,000 manufacturers' products each year. UL's worldwide family of companies and network of service providers includes 66 testing laboratories and certification facilities serving customers in 104 countries.

UL India Pvt. Ltd. is an affiliate of UL Inc., with its headquarters at Bangalore. It services more than 1200 customers in India and has an employee base of over 150. UL Inc., headquartered in Northbrook, Chicago, has over 6000 employees.

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About ELANTAS:

Focus on the global electrical and electronics industry, global market leader in primary and secondary insulation

ELANTAS produces insulating materials for the electrical and electronics industry. They are found in electric motors, household appliances, cars, generators, transformers, capacitors, wind mills, computers, lamps, circuit boards and sensors, and help to ensure that design engineers can construct ever-smaller and more powerful electronic devices, thus saving materials and energy.

Owing to consistent research and development, continual development of insulating materials and processes, and the fact that ELANTAS has production facilities around the world, the company has established a leading international position for itself and is the world's leading manufacturer of wire enamels and impregnating resins. This makes the division the supplier of choice for the electrical insulation industry. Hence international, renowned technology leaders are amongst the top customer base.

The division serves the markets through three business lines: "Primary Insulation" supplies the enameled wire industry, "Secondary Insulation" supplies applications in which the enameled wire winding is insulated and stabilized mechanically, and "Electronic & Engineering Materials" mainly supplies applications that embed or completely encapsulate electrical components

About ALTANA

ALTANA develops and produces high-quality innovative products in the specialty chemicals business. The ALTANA Group, with headquarters in Wesel/Germany, is a genuine "global player" with 83% of its sales generated by international activities. The ALTANA Group has four divisions: BYK Additives & Instruments, ECKART Effect Pigments, ELANTAS Electrical Insulation, and ACTEGA Coatings & Sealants. All of these divisions occupy a leading position in their target markets with respect to quality, product solution expertise, innovation and service.

ALTANA offers innovative, environmentally compatible solutions with the matching specialty products for coating manufactures, paint and plastic processors, the printing and cosmetic industries, and the electrical and electronic industry. The product range includes additives, special coatings and adhesives, effect pigments, sealants and compounds, impregnating resins & varnishes, and testing and measuring instruments.

At present, the ALTANA Group has 32 production facilities and 46 service and research lab sites worldwide. Throughout the group 4,600 people work to ensure the success of ALTANA worldwide. In 2007 ALTANA achieved sales of about 1.4 billion euros. Its impressive earning power and high growth rate make ALTANA one of the most successful and innovative chemical groups worldwide.

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