



A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY MANOIR INDUSTRIES AND BODYCOTE FORM A STRATEGIC ALLIANCE

Manoir Industries Pîtres, France, and Bodycote Metallurgical Coatings, UK, are pleased to confirm the formation of an strategic alliance to market and develop the CoatAlloy™ range of specialised anti-coking products, acquired from Surface Engineered Products (SEP) of Canada.

Under the terms of the Alliance agreement signed in December 2003, Bodycote will apply the unique CoatAlloy™ range of advanced anti-coking surfaces to Manoir tubing and coils products, used in the manufacture of furnaces for the ethylene industry. Significant improvements in production yields and run times can be expected by the use of these patented coatings in the cracking process.

The equipment acquired from SEP will has been relocated in a modern, specially adapted 2,800 m² unit in Knowsley, Liverpool, UK and shall be fully operational by January 1st, 2005.

Manoir will market the products through its comprehensive network of international agents and will jointly fund a structured research and development program with Bodycote, to adapt the coating for use in other petrochemical applications, the oil & gas industry, and in the direct reduction processing of iron ore.

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BODYCOTE INTERNATIONAL Plc, the metallurgical services group, has more than 240 facilities in 21 countries providing heat treatments, hot isostatic pressing, materials testing and metallurgical coatings to a wide range of industries. The group's previous experience in the application of slurry coatings will ensure that the CoatAlloy™ range of coatings will continue to be developed for further applications in the oil & gas and petrochemical industries.

MANOIR Pîtres, member of MANOIR INDUSTRIES France, is a leader in supplying cast high alloys components to the worldwide Petrochemical Industries.

