

MEDIA INFORMATION

27 September 2000 – 1/2

Trading products arm to be sold to Fortec Elektronik AG

Schaffner opens direct distribution channel in Switzerland

The Schaffner Group, the world's leading provider of products and services in the area of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), is opening a direct distribution channel in Switzerland for EMC components and test equipment produced by its parent company in Luterbach. The move reflects the company's continuing growth. Schaffner Altrac AG, previously the trading arm for Schaffner EMC products in Switzerland, is to be sold to the German firm Fortec Elektronik AG (www.fortecag.de) effective 30 September 2000. Fortec will continue to operate Altrac as a leading Swiss trading company for power supplies and data visualization from Altrac's existing base in Dietikon.

The spin-off of the trading subsidiary will be effective from the end of the Schaffner Group's business year, which closes on 30 September. Sales of trading products will therefore still be fully consolidated in the Schaffner 1999/2000 annual accounts.

Profile of the Schaffner Group

The Schaffner Group is the world's leading provider in the field of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), which is becoming more and more important given the growing problem of electromagnetic interference. Schaffner manufactures and sells EMC components which protect against electromagnetic interference, test equipment to simulate and measure electromagnetic disturbances and automatic test systems for power electronics. Schaffner's products and services are used by several thousand companies and specialized test laboratories in a number of industries. In the 1998/1999 business year, the Schaffner Group posted sales of CHF 150.7 million with a workforce of around 1,240.

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Profile of Fortec Elektronik AG

Fortec Elektronik AG is a distributor, providing additional value added services in the areas of power supplies, display technology and embedded computer technology. The company has hitherto only been represented in Germany and Austria. Following its acquisition of Altrac AG, it will now also be present on the Swiss market. The product range of the two firms is virtually identical, and they already frequently represent the same manufacturers in the market. The target market comprises manufacturing firms in the industrial automation, telecommunications, information technology and medical electronics sectors. Fortec reported sales of CHF 35.2 million for financial 1999/2000 and plans sales of CHF 48.9 million for 2000/2001.

If you have any questions about this media information, please contact Dr Alex Oechslin, Group CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors or Daniel Hofer, CFO, at the Schaffner Group, telephone +41 32 681 66 26. Für Fortec Elektronik AG, Management Board spokesman Dieter Fischer will be pleased to provide information, phone +49 8191 911 72 10.