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PRESS Release

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Cato Composites AS of Halden Norway (further Cato Norway) and Cato Composite Innovations BV of Doesburg, Netherlands (further Cato NL) are merging to one company and location. Both companies have been active in thermoplastic composite component development and manufacturing since respectively 1996 and 2008.

Last December, both companies agreed on the acquisition of the equipment and thermoplastic composite technology of Cato Norway by Cato NL. The transaction includes the military helmet production line with a capacity of 90.000 helmets/year and a production line for composite consumer electronic housings with a capacity of up to 2 million components/year. The equipment is currently being installed at Cato NL in Doesburg.

With the sale of its shares in Bond-Laminates GmbH to Lanxess (TEPEX® thermoplastic composite material, September 2012), Cato Ringstad AS, parent company of Cato Norway decided also to divest its activities in thermoplastic composites component manufacturing. General Manager Jan Werner Olsen says, “we were happy to transfer this business to Cato NL who’s managers have been close cooperation partners through Bond-Laminates ever since 1996”.

“Having the opportunity to acquire the helmet and electronics business of Cato Norway is a great opportunity for us”, says Joost van Lindert, Managing Director of Cato CI BV. “We have moved all assets to our facilities in Doesburg and are integrating these production lines within our existing production capabilities: a 250 tons, two 100 tons and a 60 tons thermoforming press, as well as injection moulding facilities for hybrid composite components. That totals 7 production presses as well as state of the art injection moulding capabilities on site. Together with in-house engineering capabilities and over 20 years of experience in thermoplastic composite materials and applications, this makes us one of the most experienced and best equipped companies focusing on thermoplastic composites component development and manufacturing globally.”

Cato Composite Innovations BV, Doesburg (NL) is a company focusing on the development and manufacturing of (hybrid) thermoplastic composite components and provides large series light weight products for aircraft interior, personal ballistic protection, high speed machines, consumer electronics, luggage and sporting goods.

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