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Constantia Packaging Group acquires majority interest in Romanian market leader for paper labels for the brewing and soft drink industry

Constantia Packaging Group subsidiary Haendler & Natermann GmbH, Germany, acquires 60% of Romania-based Novis

Effective March 1, 2007, Haendler & Natermann GmbH, Germany, acquired a 60% equity interest in Novis SRL based in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, with an option to acquire the remaining 40% equity interest in the future. The sellers of the shares are two individuals, one of whom will continue to serve as the company's General Manager.

Novis is the Romanian market leader for paper labels for the brewing and soft drink industry. In 2006, the company generated sales of €5.5 million and had 76 employees at its Cluj-Napoca site. The plant's equipment and machinery are up to Western standards. Customers include large multinational corporations such as SAB Miller, Heineken and InterBev.

With this acquisition, the Beverages & Labels division of Constantia Flexibles strengthens its production and distribution network by adding a plant in a well-established Eastern European growth market. The transaction also creates significant growth opportunities for Novis through technology transfers and operating synergies.

This year, Novis plans to begin production of gravure printed wrap-around labels, a rapidly growing segment in Europe, thereby adding to the Beverages & Labels division's already strong position.



The acquisition is consistent with Constantia Packaging's strategy of targeted expansion into Eastern and Southeastern Europe and of consolidating privately owned and operated companies into its distribution and production network.

Constantia Packaging Group is active in the corrugated board and flexible packaging segments. It has approximately 7,000 employees in 18 countries in Europe, Asia and North America, and manufactures packaging made from aluminum, plastic and corrugated board for the food, beverage, pharmaceutical and automobile industries, among others. The group's 2007 sales are expected to total around €1.3 billion.

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