

## **ProMinent Dosiertechnik GmbH and Eka Chemicals, Inc. Announce Agreement to Manufacture and Distribute Purate® Chlorine Dioxide Systems**

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*Heidelberg, Germany (December 21, 2006) – ProMinent Dosiertechnik GmbH and Eka Chemicals, Inc. announced today that they have entered into a cooperative agreement whereby Eka has licensed ProMinent to manufacture and market chlorine dioxide generators using Eka’s patented Purate® technology.*

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*Chlorine dioxide is widely used as an oxidant and biocide in markets such as drinking water, cooling towers, pulp and paper, phenol destruction, seawater cooling, odor control, waste water, and others. Because, in most cases, chlorine dioxide cannot be transported, small systems or “generators” are utilized to mix chemicals on site to produce chlorine dioxide which is then supplied to the application.*

According to Dr. Patrick Bryant, General Manager of Eka’s Purate® Business Segment, “Combining ProMinent’s worldwide leadership position in chlorine dioxide generator manufacture with Eka’s patented Purate® technology enables us to provide economical chlorine dioxide to water treatment and other small-scale applications on a global basis. Introduced in 1999, Eka’s Purate® technology is based on the reduction of sodium chlorate to produce chlorine dioxide and provides lower costs compared to existing sodium chlorite processes.”

“We have been working with Eka for more than 3 years in Brazil” adds Thomas Koetzing, Executive Vice President of ProMinent “and we have completed

many successful projects together. With our Bello Zon<sup>®</sup> product line, we already offer a wide range of Chlorine Dioxide generators. The combination of the Bello Zon<sup>®</sup> range and the Purate<sup>®</sup> range completes the offering, making us the supplier with the widest range of chlorine dioxide generators. Through the global ProMinent network of 43 owned subsidiaries, we are able to cover the complete needs of the global industrial and municipal water markets for chlorine dioxide applications."

### **Eka**

Eka Chemicals, with 2,900 employees in 30 countries, is a business unit within Akzo Nobel. Turnover 2005 amounted to 889 m EUR. Eka Chemicals is a leading supplier of bleaching chemicals, paper chemicals and systems to the pulp and paper industry throughout the world, and supplies certain special chemicals to the pharmaceuticals industry, water treatment, the electronics industry etc.

### **Akzo**

Akzo Nobel is a Global Fortune 500 company and is listed on both the Euronext Amsterdam and NASDAQ stock exchanges. It is also included on the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes and FTSE4Good Index. Based in the Netherlands, we are a multicultural organization serving customers throughout the world with human and animal healthcare products, coatings, and chemicals. We employ around 62,440 people and conduct our activities in four segments – human and animal health, coatings and chemicals – subdivided into 13 business units, with operating subsidiaries in more than 80 countries. Consolidated revenues for 2005 totaled EUR 13.0 billion.

### **ProMinent**

ProMinent is a global family owned company with approx. 1.700 employees. ProMinent is the reliable solutions partner for water treatment and a manufacturer of components and systems for chemical fluid handling. Based on our innovative products, services and industry-specific solutions we provide

more efficiency and safety for our customers – worldwide.

*Number of characters approx. 3.550*

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*For further information please contact*

*ProMinent, Mr. Michael Birmelin, Im Schuhmachergewann 5-11, 69123 Heidelberg, Germany,  
Phone. +49 (6221) 842-270, Fax -432, Email: [m.birmelin@prominent.de](mailto:m.birmelin@prominent.de)*

*We would be pleased to receive a specimen copy.*