



KS Kolbenschmidt GmbH and Metaldyne Corporation Sign Global Strategic Alliance

Plymouth, Mich. – January 29, 2009 – KS Kolbenschmidt GmbH, a member of Kolbenschmidt Pierburg AG (Rheinmetall Group), and Metaldyne Corporation, an Asahi Tec company, have signed a global strategic alliance to jointly develop and market complete power cylinder systems thus offering their customers in-depth system expertise and joint system research projects.

This alliance is designed to provide innovative next-generation technology that will help the OEMs quickly bring new products to market that address changing consumer demands for more fuel-efficient vehicles and support them in meeting future CO₂ emission requirements.

Under the agreement, both companies will work collaboratively to develop and deliver high-performance, lightweight and low-friction components and piston systems.

Traditionally, this system engineering work has been done in-house by the automakers. However, the OEMs are increasingly moving to suppliers with established expertise for complete engineered systems. This alliance is a good example of that trend as select partners came together to provide integrated engineering and management and better manage the development, delivery and quality assurance of these powertrain products.

Kolbenschmidt is a leading global supplier of gasoline pistons with 21 percent of the global piston market. Metaldyne is the world's largest supplier of powder metal forged connecting rods, manufacturing more than 40 million per year.

Contributing to the Kolbenschmidt Pierburg (KSPG) powertrain expertise is an alliance with Nippon Piston Rings (NPR) as well as the KSPG group company KS Gleitlager GmbH, specializing in the design and production of bearings and bushings for passenger car and heavy-duty applications.

In addition, TechnoMetal, an Asahi Tec company, will contribute its forging expertise to the alliance. TechnoMetal supplies steel forged connecting rods for mid-size and heavy-duty trucks.

Under the agreement, no equity is being exchanged. Both parties will remain equal and independent operations.

About Kolbenschmidt Pierburg

A leading supplier of pistons, aluminum engine blocks, bearings, automotive air management and emission control, oil, vacuum and water pumps, electric throttle control, secondary air systems, and electric exhaust-gas recirculation valves, Kolbenschmidt Pierburg's six North American units have production facilities in Fountain Inn, S.C.; Greensburg, Ind.; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Celaya, Mexico; and Marinette, Wis., in addition to its North American Technical Center in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Kolbenschmidt Pierburg AG is a subsidiary of Rheinmetall AG. The company has approximately 11,900 employees at its six automotive divisions. Global sales for its KS Aluminium-Technologie, Pierburg, Pierburg Pump Technology, KS Kolbenschmidt, KS Gleitlager and Motor Service divisions totaled nearly USD \$3.09 billion (2.25 billion Euros) in 2007. Additional information is available on the Internet at www.kspg.com.

About Metaldyne

Metaldyne is a wholly owned subsidiary of Asahi Tec, a Shizuoka, Japan-based chassis and powertrain component supplier in the passenger car/light truck and medium/heavy truck segments. Asahi Tec is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

Metaldyne is a leading global designer and supplier of metal based components, assemblies and modules for transportation related powertrain and chassis applications including engine, transmission/transfer case, wheel end and suspension, axle and driveline, and noise and vibration control products to the motor vehicle industry.

Headquartered in Plymouth, Mich., Metaldyne has annual revenues of approximately \$1.8 billion. The company employs approximately 5,000 employees at 33 facilities in 14 countries.

For more information, please visit www.metaldyne.com.

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