

# SCHWEITER TECHNOLOGIES

## Media release

### Schweiter Technologies strengthens Satis Vacuum division

Horgen, 16 September 2004 – Schweiter Technologies is planning to acquire the LOH Group, the global leader in spectacle lens surface treatment. The envisaged merger with Schweiter Technologies' Satis Vacuum division will create an all-in provider for the treatment of spectacle lenses with a share in the world market of over 60%. In 2003 LOH generated sales of CHF 102 million. Satis Vacuum, global leader (60% share) of the spectacle lens coating market, reported sales of CHF 65 million last year.

Schweiter Technologies has signed a preliminary agreement with LOH's family shareholders on the acquisition of all company shares, setting a provisional purchase date of 1 October 2004. The parties have agreed not to disclose details of the purchase price. The transaction will be funded entirely from cash and shareholders' equity. The final purchase agreement will be signed after completion of due diligence.

Integration of the LOH Group will create a full-service provider for spectacle lens treatment. The aim is to supply the market with a sustainable offering ensured by full sales and service coverage and by superior, customer-led technical solutions. This includes process integration wherever a

productivity thrust is expected. For customers the move will mean considerably simpler procedures and more productive applications.

Given the strong market foothold achieved in Europe and the USA, Asian markets in particular are also to be

targeted following the merger. In addition, there are plans to merge and reinforce the sales organizations to offer customers a more effective service.

Production locations will be maintained. Once the integration is complete, the division will have production sites in Milan (I), Horgen (CH), Oensingen (CH) and Wetzlar (D).

The restructuring drive announced and initiated by LOH at individual sites will be continued.

Dr. Urs A. Meyer, currently head of Satis Vacuum, is to be appointed CEO of the expanded group. Jürgen Wengert, who has successfully headed LOH since 1995, will be leaving the company.