

PRESS RELEASE

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ECOBAT Technologies expand their Engineered Plastics European footprint into Italy

Acquisition of Politec Srl, producer of technical polymers, to strengthen ECOBAT position as an Engineered Plastics leader for automotive and industrial sectors

Eco-Bat SpA, Paderno Dugnano (Milan), a company of the ECOBAT Technologies Group, acquired 100% of Politec Srl, Pieve di Cento (Bologna), a company founded in 1978 and producing a range of technical polymers for the automotive and industrial sectors.

This acquisition is part of the strategic advancement aimed at expanding the Eco-Bat Group's position as an Engineered Plastics leader for automotive and industrial sectors, through both organic growth and acquisitions.

Eco-Bat are delighted to welcome the quality, innovation and professionalism found in Politec's business that perfectly fits with the high standards that Eco-Bat requires and delivers to delight their customers. Equal satisfaction was expressed by the previous owners of Politec, Giulio Bargellini and Diego Bonora, passing the baton to a Group with high standards in ethics, product and services quality, health, safety, environment and the requirements to ensure the prosperity of a company with a future of innovation and development.

Eco-Bat operates several Engineered Plastic compounding and extrusion plants throughout Europe. In Italy, at Politec, Pieve di Cento (Bologna), Eco-Bat is now in a position to replicate best practice and produce high-grade Engineered Plastics for automotive and industrial sectors across a much broader geography.

Mr Giorgio Moretti, Executive Director Politec Srl, said „our team is very excited to have joined Eco-Bat. We share a common philosophy and with Eco-Bat product portfolio and geography we can build upon our longstanding customer relationships. Bringing together our experiences and best practices gained from proven technological solutions across multiple industries will certainly add value to our markets and customers.“

Rob Harris; Managing Director of Eco-Bat Europe states "Engineered Plastics are made principally from sustainable recycled raw materials providing comparable properties and performance to products manufactured from primary materials. With an annual

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production capacity of more than 70,000 tonnes of Engineered Plastics Eco-Bat's growth story in recent years, driven by product innovation and their Company values of:

- Performance-driven - setting standards
- Pride - World Class Heritage Tradition
- Progressive - always looking for improvements
- Green - demonstrating environmental leadership

is nothing short of remarkable.

We believe that operating in a sustainable way, taking care of our people, our communities and also taking care of the environment where we operate is the only way to do business. To earn the support of society, Eco-Bat needs to be a responsible operator that is prepared to recognise and help to resolve many different concerns - among them HSE issues, economic impacts and relationships with communities, suppliers, customers, partners and governments. Our Engineered Plastics business is a great example of our philosophy translated into 'real world thinking and action'. Eco-Bat is an innovative provider of products and services to the plastics industry, contributes substantially to the protection of the environment and is developing sustainable products conserving resources for the next generation."

Harris continues : "We are delighted to welcome our colleagues from Politec to the Eco-Bat Family. Our teams will work together in deep collaboration to continue our sustainable growth strategy and delight our customers. There are many challenges facing the Engineered Plastics industry but through our core values, business capabilities and relationships, Eco-Bat has and will adapt and navigate through changing times. We will continue to do so, building a business that is sustainable in every sense." concludes Harris.

About the ECOBAT group: (see www.ecobatgroup.com)

ECOBAT Technologies is the world's largest producer of lead, producing over 800,000 metric tonnes per year from over 15 facilities in Europe, the USA and South Africa. ECOBAT maximizes the value of its operations by producing the highest quality lead and lead alloys, specifically designed for the battery, mining and other industries both from recycled and primary materials. In addition, ECOBAT processes and supplies in various forms silver, lead anodes and sheet, zinc, aluminum, industrial minerals, plastics, polyfoams, and provides services including spent battery collection and distribution of new batteries. Excellence is the watchword throughout all operations, but particularly in customer service, technical expertise and health, safety and environmental matters.