

World leader for aluminium anodising - http://investors.unitedanodisers.com ISIN: BE0160342011 - Reuters: COI.PA - Bloomberg: UAS:FP PRESS RELEASE - PROPOSED TRANSFER TO ALTERNEXT

# UNITED ANODISERS INITIATES ITS TRANSFER FROM NYSE EURONEXT TO ALTERNEXT

Brussels, February 9th, 2011 (7:00 am) – The Board of Directors of United Anodisers (ISIN: BE0160342011, Ticker: UAS) (the "**Company**"), the world leader for aluminium anodising, has today decided to convene a general meeting for March 7th, 2011, when it will invite shareholders to approve the proposal to ask NYSE Euronext Paris to withdraw the Company's shares from trading on Euronext Paris and ensure their concomitant admission for trading on Alternext.

# Alternext, a market that is better suited to the company's reality

This proposal follows on from the new regulatory arrangements aimed at opening up access to Alternext to listed companies from Euronext Compartments B and C, and particularly those for which the regulations involved with listing on Euronext Paris require compliance with complex regulations which are not necessarily suited to the situation of the companies concerned.

These constraints no longer seem relevant in relation to the Company's situation and market capitalisation, and do not offer any particular advantages in terms of the share's liquidity or valuation. In this way, transferring our securities over to Alternext should simplify the Company's operations and reduce its costs. Moreover, United Anodisers' positioning is more in keeping with the type of companies whose securities are traded on Alternext, a market devoted specifically to SMEs and better suited to helping drive United Anodisers' projects forward and improving its stock market visibility.

### Simplification of regulatory constraints

United Anodisers would like to remind shareholders about the main consequences of such a transfer:

- In terms of financial disclosures, the Company will publish its audited annual accounts under IFRS within four months of the year-end, and its unaudited half-year reports within four months of the half year-end, but it will notably be exempt from releasing half-year accounts within the two-month timeframe. United Anodisers will also be exempt from drawing up and publishing a report on internal control and corporate governance, as well as quarterly disclosures concerning sales for the past quarter.
- In the event of a change of control, minority shareholders will be protected exclusively by the standing market offer mechanism if a controlling block is acquired. Moreover, companies listed on Alternext only have to communicate with the market in terms of changes in their shareholding structure when the shareholding thresholds representing 95% and 50% of the capital or voting rights are passed (upwards or downwards). However, in accordance with the legal provisions in force, United Anodisers will, for three years following its removal from Euronext Paris, remain subject to the system governing mandatory public offerings.
- The Company will continue to publish all information which might significantly influence the stock price, in accordance with the relevant provisions from the General Regulations set out by the French securities regulator (Autorité des Marchés Financiers, AMF).

## Indicative timeline for the operation

- February 9th, 2011: convening of the extraordinary general meeting to deliberate on the proposed request for admission on Alternext and publication of information relating to the proposed admission request
- March 7th, 2011: general shareholders' meeting and delegation given to the Board of Directors to implement the decision
- Week of March 7th, 2011: implementation of the transfer request decision
- Week of March 7th, 2011: immediate publication of information concerning the definitive transfer decision
- Week of March 7th, 2011: request for the shares to be withdrawn from Euronext Paris and request for them to be admitted on Alternext
- Week of March 28th, 2011: notice of admission on NYSE-Euronext Alternext
- Week of April 25th, 2011: withdrawal of United Anodisers' shares from Euronext and admission of United Anodisers' shares on Alternext
- [Transfer + 3 months]: use of a Listing Sponsor

For reference, once the shares have been effectively withdrawn from Euronext, they would no longer be able to be traded on the NYSE Euronext Paris market, but exclusively on Alternext.

With this operation, United Anodisers is aiming for a balance between the management of the constraints for SMEs in terms of regulation and the need for transparency expressed by investors.

## To find out more, visit: http://investors.unitedanodisers.com

## About UNITED ANODISERS

United Anodisers, the Belgian Group listed on NYSE Euronext Paris Compartment C since June 26th, 1996, is the world's largest architectural and industrial anodiser, specialising in the surface treatment of aluminium extrusions, castings and flat-rolled products.

Anodising is an electrochemical process - electrolysis - that develops a natural and protective exterior layer on aluminium that can be coloured, providing exceptional corrosion protection and/or increased functionality for the metal.

Anodising preserves all the natural and ecological properties of aluminium - it retains its high strength-toweight ratio, non-magnetic properties and exceptional corrosion resistance without any impact on the total and repeated recyclability of the metal.

Anodised aluminium is used across a wide range of architectural, designer, industrial and automotive applications.

# Eurolist C - ISIN: BE0160342011 - Reuters: COI.PA - Bloomberg: UAS:FP

#### For further information, contact us at

UNITED ANODISERS - Tim Hutton - Chief Executive Officer – tim.hutton@unitedanodisers.com -Tel: +32 (0)11 88 01 88 CALYPTUS – Cyril Combe – cyril.combe@calyptus.net -Tel: +33 (0)1 53 65 37 94