

Press Release – February 12, 2007 – Bank awards Hexis prize for growth performance

Hexis S.A., manufacturer of self-adhesive vinyl films with headquarters in France, received the coveted *Prix de l'Ambition* jointly awarded by Banque Palatine, La Tribune and HEC Group, recognizing its continued growth performance.

La Tribune, one of the leading financial newspapers in France, singled out Hexis amongst numerous medium sized businesses competing for the prize.

The prize rewards Hexis, with its 2 production sites in France, for a sustained annual growth rate of over 35% over the past 7 years.

The company manufactures a wide range of graphic vinyl and digital printing media used for sign making and vehicle markings.

In the US Hexis operates from its Corona, California warehouse from where it serves the US, Canada and Central America. As in previous years Hexis will be exhibiting at the ISA International Sign Expo in Las Vegas in April.

Hexis supports efforts aiming at a sustainable development and long term protection of the environment. Thus in 2006 the company invested USD 520,000 in a high temperature incinerator in order to completely eliminate rejections of solvents used in the production process. They are burnt and only water and small quantities of carbon dioxide are released in the atmosphere.

Hexis owns 2 manufacturing sites in the South of France and exports over 40% of its sales in over 40 countries worldwide, while enjoying sales of USD 38 million in 2006.

At its main site Hexis boasts a high tech R&D laboratory equipped with the latest scientific gear and is particularly proud of their innovative development of a cast vinyl film and a structured adhesive named Hex'Press that allows complete elimination of air bubbles during the application of self-adhesive media.

Hexis, founded in 1989 by its current president, Michel Mateu, is established in Frontignan in the South of France and besides the subsidiary in California has affiliate Hexis companies in Italy, the Netherlands and the UK. The group has 135 employees.

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