

Zurich, August 28, 2008

3S Industries AG announces the half-year results and introduces a new product line

New Value's portfolio company 3S Industries AG triples sales and EBIT and enters the business of fully automated production lines

3S Industries AG, Lyss, a portfolio company of New Value (SWX: NEWN), has released the half-year results today in an ad-hoc announcement. Net sales and EBIT tripled. Further 3S has developed a completely new kind of fully automatic production line for the manufacturing of solar modules. The company will be introducing this line at the European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition in Valencia the following week.

3S Industries AG, the world's technological leader for automatic string soldering machinery, laminating lines and testers for solar module production, again grew at an above-average rate in the first half of 2008. Net sales and EBIT tripled to CHF 30.5 million and CHF 3 million respectively. The revenues of Somont GmbH, which was acquired by 3S Industries AG on 4. August, 2008, are not yet included in the half-year results. They will be consolidated from August onwards and will flow into the annual results for 2008. The group confirms its sales forecast and profit target for the full year. For the 2008 financial year, 3S Industries expects sales revenues of CHF 110 million and an EBIT margin of more than 10 percent. 3S is listed at the Berne eXchange (BX: SSS). Actually 3S has 174 employees compared to 55 employees at the end of 2007. New Value is holding a stake of 12.38% in 3S Industries AG.

Entrance in the business of fully automated production lines

Dr. Patrick Hofer-Noser, CEO of 3S said, that with the acquisition of Somont, they now have all the key technologies for the production of solar modules. "That has enabled us to develop and implement this new concept of a fully automatic production line. What this means for our customers is better, faster and safer production processes at lower costs". 3S will ship the first fully automatic production line in the course of 2009.

3S Industries has applied for patents on various innovations which were gained from development of the equipment. For the automation and the flow of goods 3S Industries is collaborating with the world's leading expert for factory automation within the automotive, aerospace and logistics industries, Güdel Group AG from Langenthal (Switzerland).

New generation of laminators

With the new XL laminator series, 3S will be presenting a second product novelty at the exhibition in Valencia. This new generation of laminators enables annual capacities of up to 60 MWp. According to Ronald Lange, Head of Innovation at 3S, the XL laminator enables the customers to expand their capacities and produce much more quickly and inexpensively. "Our proven technology with the hybrid heating plate guarantees high process safety and is suitable for crystalline as well as thin layer cells".

Information about New Value AG

New Value, officially listed at the SWX Swiss Exchange, invests directly in promising private companies in Switzerland and neighbouring German-speaking countries with above-average market and growth potential. As an investment company, New Value promotes innovative business models with venture capital and accompanies those to market success. The portfolio covers companies of different stages of development, starting with the market introduction phase up to medium-sized enterprises with stable profits. A broad investment approach is deliberately followed regarding industry sectors.

Press Release

The portfolio contains companies active in renewable energy, medical technology, health, information technology and new materials. New Value assigns great value to ethical business concepts and good corporate governance while selecting their portfolio companies. Criteria such as meaningfulness, social responsibility and ecological sustainability are considered by New Value as decisive competitive advantages, which affect and enhance the quality of products and services offered and thus, facilitate an above average increase of value potential. Since the formation of New Value, EPS Value Plus AG, Zurich, has served as investment manager.

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