

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAGPLASTIC ASIA PVT. LTD. is inaugurating its new Pune operation in India

Pune, India, April 2005.

With MAGPLASTIC ASIA, the Swiss based SIHGroup has established its first production plant in Asia. Located in the Raisoni Industrial Park the state of the art plant is located on 17'600 square meter ground of which the building covers 2'400 square meters.

Background

Construction had started in December 2003 and was completed in the second half of 2004.

Magplastic Switzerland has been a key supplier of PET bottle blow moulding machines to the Indian market.

Having had to face growing competition from Asia it was decided to set up production in India. Magplastic quality machines produce PET bottles used by all major Cola producers in India. Magplastic machines allow also production of water, juice, liquor and pharmaceutical bottles as well as non food containers for detergents and personal care satisfying the global packaging trends in relation to productivity and production cost.

The new Plant with its expansion possibilities is large enough to supply the very fast growing Indian market for PET bottle production machinery as well as exporting to other countries. The operation is assembling two different types of blow moulding machines as well as a laminate tube making machine under agreement with its sister company Aisa.

Swiss technologies

Two superior Swiss technologies are offered to the local market by the Pune plant:

Magplastic SSB PET bottle production machines and Aisa's SAESA® laminate tube packaging production machines. For both technologies MAGPLASTIC ASIA PVT. LTD. is demonstrating localized production machines on display during our opening ceremony and made in India.

For the first time in India, Magplastic offers machine technologies such as preferential heating of preform for production of oval and asymmetrical containers as well as heat set options for the production of PET bottles for hot fill applications.

The new Pune operation allows the SIHGroup to be closer to market needs. Proposing the expertise and the precision of Swiss technology but built up in India.



About Magplastic Switzerland

Magplastic began its activities in the early 1980s in Geneva, Switzerland, and since then it has become an internationally recognized name in packaging production machinery. Since the first SSB machine was developed in June 1981, Magplastic has established a reputation for producing high-quality biaxial oriented PET containers. In 2002, Magplastic became a member of the Swiss SIH Group. Magplastic has its own offices in the USA, Brazil, and its Asian sister company in Pune India; in other countries through qualified agents.

Mag-Plastic Machinery SA Rue Alfred Pot 1 CH-1896 Vouvry Switzerland

Internet: www.magplastic.com

About Aisa

AISA Automation Industrielle SA is today the largest manufacturer of laminate and plastic tube packaging production machinery in the world. The company has been founded in 1962, and is ISO 9001 certified. More than 50 % of the world's laminate tubes are produced on Aisa production lines, as are a significant proportion of seamless plastic tubes.

AISA Automation Industrielle SA Avenue de Savoie 61 CH-1896 Vouvry Switzerland

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About the SIHGroup

SIHGroup brings together several of the world's leading packaging machinery and technology companies, including Sprimag (surface coating systems), Aisa (laminate and plastic tube packaging production machinery), Magplastic (stretch blow moulding machinery) and Aisapack (innovative packaging solutions). The Group has 500 employees worldwide, and has an annual turnover of 100 million Euros.

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For more information, please contact

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Picture 1 : Magplastic Building in Pune

Picture 3 : SSB02 produced in Pune Picture 4 : SSB03 produced in Pune

Picture 5 : Saesa 100 produced in India