



## **THE ROULLIER GROUP ACQUIRES 50% OF VAN MANNEKUS FROM POSSEHL ERZKONTOR**

The French based Roullier Group, a market leader in magnesia for agricultural and refractory applications has announced today the acquisition of a 50% stake in Van Mannekus & Co. BV from Possehl Erzkontor GmbH joining Grecian Magnesite who retains the remaining 50%.

The Roullier Group and Grecian Magnesite have signed a JV Agreement and will utilize their experience and market expertise to share responsibilities in Van Mannekus management in order to further develop the sales of magnesium compounds for the chemical, industrial, construction and specialty markets worldwide.

“This development will create a strong organization committed to servicing a wide portfolio of magnesia products tailor-made to customer needs” said Gilles Le Jean, the General Manager for Magnesia in the Roullier Group. Gilles added “This next phase will increase Van Mannekus competitiveness and market development thanks to the international sales network, logistical efficiency and supplementary global sourcing capabilities of the Roullier Group and particularly its subsidiary TIMAB”

“We welcome Timab in Van Mannekus, a partner who we have been successfully cooperating for decades in the development of the agricultural markets and in Magnesitas Navarras, a Spanish magnesia producer specialized in servicing the markets of monolithic refractories worldwide. This new development will add sourcing options to Van Mannekus’ existing wide portfolio of grades from Grecian Magnesite’s Yerakini and Erenkoy mines that have been successfully supplying the company with a wide range of caustic calcined magnesia grades with unique and controlled chemistry and properties” said Michael Tsoukatos, Grecian Magnesite’s Director for Development.

Van Mannekus is a well established processor and trader of a broad range of magnesia compounds. The processing and storage facilities cover more than 25 000 m<sup>2</sup> and are perfectly located in the heart of the Rotterdam port area. Van Mannekus focuses on the industrial markets with Floormag<sup>®</sup> and Stonemag<sup>®</sup> for the construction industry and the most recently introduced ActiveMag<sup>®</sup> product range for applications that require high active magnesia such as rubber and plastics. Van Mannekus closely cooperates with Russian Mining Chemical Company for the sales and marketing of Ecopiren<sup>®</sup>, an ecological and economical flame retardant, for which it can call upon the expertise and know-how of Grecian Magnesite’s R&D centre.

***Press release***

***Industrial Minerals***

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