

## Press Release

# Divestiture of Sperian Protection's welding business

Paris, July 27 2010

Sperian Protection announced today the divestiture of its welding masks design, manufacturing and sales business to a private Swiss entrepreneur, Mr. Marco Koch.

In the framework of its portfolio review, Sperian Protection concluded that this activity offers little manufacturing, logistics, or marketing synergies with its other businesses or with the Group's chosen vertical markets.

The welding business is based in Wattwil (Switzerland) and generates annual sales of approximately €10 million. The transaction will be relative at the level of operating activities' income in 2010.

The operation will result in an accounting of a non-operating loss of about €2 million in Sperian Protection's 2010 half-year accounts, with no impact on debt level.

This business will now be able to develop in an independent and responsible manner, taking it closer to its end markets. The purchaser's knowledge of the company's staff is a major strength that puts this business on a strong position for the future.

### **About Sperian Protection**

*Sperian Protection is the reference leader in personal protective equipment (hearing, eye, respiratory and fall protection, gloves, clothing and footwear) resolutely geared towards international markets. The Group offers innovative products adapted to high-risk environments so that workers in the manufacturing and services industries can work with confidence.*

[www.sperian.com](http://www.sperian.com)

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#### **Investor Relations**

Véronique Boca  
Tel: +33 (0)1 49 90 79 74  
[InvestorRelations@sperian.com](mailto:InvestorRelations@sperian.com)

#### **Media Relations**

Christophe Mathy  
Tel: +33 (0)1 49 90 79 72  
[cmathy@sperian.com](mailto:cmathy@sperian.com)

Burson•Marsteller  
Jonathan Ganem  
Tel +33 (0)1 41 86 76 28