

Press release

investor relations

Royal Ten Cate acquires illbruck Office Products

Royal Ten Cate (high-grade textiles, plastics and rubber) has reached an agreement in principle with illbruck GmbH on the acquisition of illbruck Office Products. illbruck Office Products has a leading position in the field of developing and producing transport and technical rollers for office machines. The turnover of the illbruck division amounts to EUR 30 million. illbruck has 316 employees. The takeover strengthens the market position of Ten Cate Enbi. The activities of illbruck will contribute positively to the results of Ten Cate.

illbruck Office Products operates worldwide and has activities in Opladen (Germany), Wrexham (UK), Rochester (USA) and Sao Paulo (Brazil). Preparations are currently being made to establish a branch in Mexico. An important part of illbruck's package of products is the production of so-called technical rollers. These rollers are used for image transfer in laser printers and photocopiers. For the further development of these products, illbruck has entered into alliances and licence agreements with various Japanese companies.

The acquisition is in line with Ten Cate Enbi's strategy, which is aimed at increasing its customer base and broadening its technological basis. Ten Cate Enbi is one of the leading suppliers of components for the transport of paper and image transfer in office machines. Its turnover amounts to EUR 97 million. The group is active worldwide and owes its good reputation to its technically high-grade products and its high technological level. Ten Cate Enbi's 1999 operating results amounted to EUR 9.1 million.

Through the takeover of illbruck Office Products, Ten Cate Enbi strengthens its ability to supply its customers all over the world. Both companies will continue their activities under the name of Ten Cate Enbi.

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