

## **Press release:**

Company

# **DNick Holding opens plant in India**

- Listed company strengthens international market position
- Production of clad materials to begin early in 2010
- 170 employees scheduled to be recruited in the medium term

**Schwerte, 19 November 2009 – The DNick Holding plc, manufacturer of nickel and nickel alloys as well as coin blanks, inaugurated a production facility in India this week. The listed company with its head office in Schwerte, Germany, had set up the plant in the greater area of Indore on the basis of a joint venture with the Indian company Shivalik Bimetal Controls Ltd. and the French company ArcelorMittal Stainless and Nickel Alloys S.A. Following an operational trial period until the end of the year, the joint enterprise called Innovative Clad Solutions Private Limited will take up the production of clad strips at the beginning of the year 2010.**

“The opening of the plant in India is an important milestone for our company“, says Dr. Götz-Peter Blumbach, chairman of the board of DNick Holding. According to Dr. Blumbach, the DNick Group is tapping new customer and sales potential in Asia by taking this step, as a result of which its international market position is strengthened significantly.

The manufacturing of samples for future orders will begin at the plant in Indore / Pithampur with immediate effect. The production of clad strips for mechanical engineering purposes as well as the electric and electronic industries, to name but a few, will run up in the year 2010. In the medium term, up to 170 employees working in three shifts are to satisfy the high worldwide demand for innovative materials.

Construction of the plant began in October of 2008 and was completed after approximately one year. The production halls and operations buildings with an overall surface area of 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> accommodate all the machines and facilities needed for manufacturing clad strips, such as a cold rolling mill, a cold bonding rolling mill, heat treatment units, strip cleaning systems, slitting lines as well as laboratory and service facilities. Manufacturing clad materials involves the roll bonding of various metal combinations such as steel, copper, aluminium, bronze and nickel alloys, which are joined firmly together as a result. These combined materials are used in automotive and mechanical engineering, the electric and electronic industry, the manufacturing of coin blanks as well as in a growing number of special solutions.

The joint venture called Innovative Clad Solutions Private Limited was founded in New Delhi in February of 2008. The three partners DNick Holding plc, Shivalik Bimetal Controls Ltd. (India) and ArcelorMittal Stainless and Nickel Alloys S.A. (France) each hold a third of the shares in the company. Within the DNick Group, the joint venture is assigned to the business area iron-nickel and the segment “strips“ of the latter. The associated operational and strategic tasks and activities are the responsibility of the subsidiary Auerhammer Metallwerk GmbH, leading manufacturer of cold-clad metal strips.

**Further information is available at:** [www.dnickholding.de](http://www.dnickholding.de)

**About DNick Holding plc:**

**DNick Holding plc** is one of the leading manufacturers worldwide of special materials made of nickel and nickel alloys, as well as of metal products. From its administrative centre in Schwerte in North Rhine-Westphalia, the company bundles all business activities of the DNick group as a holding company. The group is divided into the business areas of iron-nickel and coin blanks. In the business area iron-nickel, the group acts with the operative subsidiary companies Deutsche Nickel GmbH (Schwerte), Auerhammer Metallwerk GmbH (Aue) and Deutsche Nickel America Inc. (USA). In the business area coin blanks, the SAXONIA EuroCoin GmbH (Halsbrücke) and Compania Europea de Cospeles S.A. (Spain) are active. In the business year 2008 the group achieved sales of 237 million Euro. The founding of the DNick Holding plc as a public limited company in accordance with British law took place in 2005 in order to function as a holding for the business activities of the former Deutsche Nickel AG. Following successful restructuring of the entire company group, the DNick Holding plc was placed on the stock market in 2006. The stock is traded in the German unofficial regulated market at the stock exchange centres in Frankfurt, Berlin and on the XETRA platform.

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