

Mersen takes a majority stake in Cirprotec and deepens its footprint in the power quality segment

Paris, February 12, 2014 - Mersen (Euronext FR0000039620 – MRN), global expert in electrical specialties and graphite-based materials, announces an agreement to acquire a majority stake in Cirprotec, specialists in lightning and overvoltage protection (SPD).

The transaction will continue to expand the Group's position in a segment with an attractive growth potential related to improvements in power quality and safety issues. The alliance participates to an on-going development of Mersen's portfolio and expertise in electrical specialties and represents combined sales in the global surge protection markets that exceed €20 million. It also allows the Group to globally address markets highly driven by safety and installation standards.

Surge Protection Devices (SPDs) provide protection against damaging transient overvoltages in electrical installations and equipment. They are installed in electrical distribution networks to mitigate the growing problems associated with power quality by protecting increasingly sensitive and critical applications, in particular in industrial automation or photovoltaic energy.

Cirprotec is based in Terrassa near Barcelona (Spain).

Marc Vinet, a member of the Management Board, said, "*We are warmly welcoming Cirprotec's team. Our powerful network and our ability to leverage sales in new markets combined with Cirprotec's product portfolio and world-class surge test platform will offer our customers the benefits of a unique expertise in power quality*".

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About Mersen

Global expert in electrical specialties and graphite-based materials, Mersen designs innovative solutions to address its clients' specific needs to enable them to optimize their manufacturing process in sectors such as energy, transportation, electronics, chemical, pharmaceutical and process industries.

With 6,600 employees in over 40 countries, Mersen achieved consolidated sales of €739 million in 2013.

The Group is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris – Compartment B

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