

Press Release

Sperian Protection concludes the divestiture of its Image Wear business

Paris, 17 November 2009

Sperian Protection announced the divestiture of its Image Wear design and marketing clothing business to Cepovett, a work wear and corporate image clothing manufacturer and distributor.

This divestiture is in line with Sperian Protection's strategy of focusing on its core business – personal protective equipment. The deal also allows the Group to divest a business that offers little manufacturing, logistics or marketing synergies with its other businesses.

The Image Wear business generates annual sales of approximately €18 million. The transaction will be relative at the level of operating activities' income from Q4 2009 onwards and will have a positive effect on the net debt of €3.5 million related to partial reimbursement of current account.

The operation will result in an accounting of a non-operating loss of about €10 million in Sperian Protection's 2009 accounts, with no impact on debt level.

Brice de La Morandière, Chief Executive Officer of Sperian Protection, commented: "We did our best to find a sustainable solution for this business. I am therefore satisfied with the divestiture to Cepovett, a specialist in the work and image wear clothing sector, which will promote technological advancement and future expansion for this business. This operation will now allow Sperian Protection to focus its efforts and resources on its core businesses with high potential."

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.

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