

Press Release

Paris, 30 December 2009:

As a result of the appeal process following a decision of a jury of St Louis (USA), the Group announces the payment this week of \$22 million, the total net cost including interest for the Group. This operation has no impact on Sperian's income statement, as the total amount has been provisioned.

The Group believes that the verdict was contrary to the weight of the evidence presented and did not properly apply governing law. Sperian Protection' priority has always been to ensure the quality and integrity of its products. The Group is confident in the strength of its product technology and its capability to provide high quality products for use in high-risk environment.

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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