



The Saft Group to expand its activities in China

Beijing, November 29th, 2013 – Saft, the world's leading designer and manufacturer of advanced technology batteries for industry, is looking to expand its activities in China, declared John Searle, President of Saft's management board, in a press conference in Beijing today.

Saft is already working with Chinese customers in the aerospace, rail, utility metering, electronic toll collection and back-up power markets, delivering high performance, reliable back-up power in demanding climatic and environment conditions throughout China.

Recent major contracts include supplying primary lithium batteries for major multi-year smart metering projects in the gas sector in Hangzhou, and Shenzhen and to the country's leading water meter OEM.

The innovative sectors Saft is targeting in particular are rechargeable batteries for telecom network back-up power, Li-ion energy storage for renewable energy installation, storing regenerative train braking energy, frequency regulation, diesel locomotive starting and high performance primary lithium batteries for the security and tracking, oil exploration and medical sectors.

John Searle, President of Saft's management board said: *"Saft's strategy in China has always been to support Chinese industry with high quality, reliable battery solutions, wherever possible manufactured close to our customers. Saft is bringing its 100 year experience to meet the needs of the Chinese market and Saft's entire range of rechargeable and primary battery systems is now available in China. We intend to continue to expand our manufacturing base in Zhuhai to accompany the growth in China"*.

Saft rail batteries provide the essential back-up power necessary to brake high speed trains, open doors and keep communications working in case of power failure on metros, tramways and trains across the country, from Beijing to Tibet to Hong Kong, and is positioned on many of the planned future lines, such as Beijing metro's line 6.

In the aerospace sector, where Saft is also the world leader, Li-ion batteries equip weather and telecommunication satellites for their 15+ year life to power the satellite when it is eclipsed from the sun.

Saft batteries equip 100% of the Airbus and 80% of the Boeing fleets in the world, providing vital back-up power to the electrical and electronic equipment on board. Through its Chinese distribution network the company supplies all the major Chinese plane manufacturers, including Airbus and Tianjin and the regional jet market (ARJ21, Y12, and helicopters (EC175/215). Many new aircraft projects are also under final discussion with COMAC, CALGA and Xian for example.

.../...



As the worldwide leader in emergency back-up power batteries for industrial installations, particularly in the oil and gas and power generation and distribution sectors, Saft is naturally present throughout China with long-life, highly reliable nickel batteries for on-shore and off-shore sites (Sinopec, CNOOC, CNPC, LNG plant in Shenzhen, etc.).

For the future, Saft is already expanding its manufacturing site in Zhuhai and is looking to increase its work with Chinese industry.

About Saft

Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world leader in the design and manufacture of advanced technology batteries for industry. The Group is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel batteries and primary lithium batteries for the industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, civil and military electronics markets. Saft is the world leader in space and defence batteries with its Li-ion technologies which are also being deployed in the energy storage, transportation and telecommunication markets. Saft's 3,800 employees present in 18 countries, its 15 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network all contribute to accelerating the Group's growth for the future.

For more information, visit Saft at www.saftbatteries.com

Press contact:

Saft

Jill Ledger, Saft Corporate Communications and Institutional Relations Director

Tel: +33 1 49 93 17 77, e-mail : jill.ledger@saftbatteries.com

FTI Consulting

Caroline Guilhaume, Tél. : +33 1 47 03 68 10, caroline.guilhaume@fticonsulting.com