



Limoges, January 9, 2007

Legrand continues expansion in the Asia-Pacific area with the acquisition of HPM

- **Legrand takes control of HPM, no. 2 in Australia for wiring devices**
- **Legrand significantly strengthens its positions in the Asia-Pacific area and on the wiring device market where it is world leader**

Actively continuing its strategy of growth through targeted acquisitions, Legrand today announced – subject to regulatory approval – the acquisition of HPM, number two for wiring devices in Australia and New Zealand. The transaction confirms Legrand's interest in the acquisition of businesses with substantial market share and recognized standing in their field of expertise.

Wiring device specialist HPM reports annual sales of approximately €100 million, of which nearly 88% is generated in Australia. HPM will round out the group's positions in the Asia-Pacific area, where Legrand recently consolidated its presence through the acquisitions of TCL International Electrical, TCL Building Technology and Shidean in China. Conversely, Legrand's ranges in protection, cable management, VDI and access control will effectively extend HPM's product offering and market coverage.

Present in Sydney, Melbourne and Auckland, HPM employs 875 people including a sales force of around 200.

Gilles Schnepf, Legrand's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, comments:

"With this acquisition, Legrand continues its strategy of targeted acquisition-driven growth financed out of self-generated cash flow and creating value for our shareholders, in particular by maintaining attractive financial leverage. HPM brings us strong positions for wiring devices in Australia, providing a sound base for Legrand to build market share and to expand offerings with other group products."



P R E S S R E L E A S E

ABOUT LEGRAND

Legrand (www.legrandelectric.com) is one of the principal worldwide specialist for products and systems for low-voltage electrical installations and data networks. Legrand provides solutions for residential, commercial and industrial buildings. With more than 130,000 catalog items and a commercial presence in more than 60 countries, the group generated revenues of €3.2 billion in 2005. With a work force of 31,000 employees and nearly 5% of its sales invested in R&D each year, the group focuses its development on innovation and a regular stream of new, high added-value products.

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