



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Nanogate AG increases presence and opens up new markets in Asia**

**Subsidiary HOLMENKOL sets up Asian branch in Japan – reappearance at “nano tech 2008” in Tokyo – first tribology products based on metallic nanocomposites presented**

**Tokyo/Saarbrücken, 13 February 2008. Following on from its success last year, Nanogate AG (ISIN DE000A0JKHC9) is presenting itself for the second time at the world’s most important nanotechnology fair, “nano tech 2008” in Tokyo (13 to 15 February 2008). One of the fair’s focal points concerns new tribology products for improving energy efficiency in automobile manufacturing and mechanical engineering. As part of its growth strategy, Nanogate is looking to provide a general and sustained boost to its market cultivation in Asia. Its subsidiary HOLMENKOL has, for example, announced the establishment of its own branch in Japan.**

One focal point of Nanogate’s presence at the “nano tech 2008” was the announcement of the foundation of its own HOLMENKOL subsidiary to cater to the Asian market. It is expected that the new company will generate sales well into six figures (in euro terms) as early as the financial year 2008. HOLMENKOL, a long-established company, focuses on surfaces for the sport and leisure segment and recently substantially broadened its technological competence and its strategic interlocking with Nanogate AG.

In addition, current innovations and applications will be presented to the Asian market with the “Saarland empowering nano” initiative. At its fair stand, Nanogate will be presenting its latest solutions for car manufacturing and mechanical engineering, the new product series NanoGuard® for application in buildings, and the possibilities for applying Dotfarm® optics in displays. Special emphasis will be given to the first tribological products to be based on metallic



nanocomposites (MMC), which the new Nanogate technology Nanoplating® has made possible. These products are particularly suitable for reducing the friction between moving parts and thereby improving energy efficiency, for example in engines. At the end of last year, Nanogate had successfully completed the transition of this technology from laboratory to industrial standard and, in connection with this, officially opened a new application centre.

Nanogate will also be taking advantage of the opportunity to enhance its existing commercial contacts and make preparations for specific projects. In renewing its presence at the "nano tech" in the Japanese capital, Nanogate AG is intensifying its commitment to the financially powerful Asian market. At this, the world's largest nanotechnology fair, more than 180 exhibitors will reach approximately 45,000 visitors from all over the world.

"With the ongoing intensification of our market cultivation activities, not to mention the new HOLMENKOL branch, we are increasing our presence on the high-volume Asian market. We expect this to generate positive momentum for all Nanogate AG business segments and to enable us to expand our existing networks. In the medium term, Nanogate wants to achieve a strong presence on the Asian market, one that is strategically significant for our growth strategy", explains Michael Jung, a member of the Nanogate Management Board. "Asian, and especially Japanese, industry is traditionally strongly focused on the use of high-performance materials. In this area, the growing use of nanotechnology is increasingly coming to occupy a key role. With our comprehensive system competence in the field of multifunctional surface enhancements, we offer interesting new approaches for the innovation process and a broad range of products that are already successful", explains Michael Jung. Nanogate therefore sees itself in an advantageous starting position for the upcoming development of the Asian market.



**Queries? Please feel free to contact:**

**Christian Dose** (Financial press and investors)  
equinet Communications AG  
Tel.: +49 (0)69 5899-7302  
communications@equinet-ag.de

**Nanogate AG**  
Gewerbepark Eschbergerweg  
D-66121 Saarbrücken  
www.nanogate.com

**Klaus Reuning** (Business and trade press)  
MPW FINANCE  
Public & Investor Relations GmbH  
Tel. +49 (0)69 959 290-0  
nanogate@mpwfinance.com

**Nanogate AG:**

Nanogate is a leading international enabler in the nanotechnology growth market and so opens the gate to this technology for its customers. The Saarbrücken-based firm enables the programming and integration of additional properties such as non-stick, anti-bacterial, anti-corrosive, ultra-low friction. Nanogate thereby gains a competitive edge for its customers by product refinement using chemical nanotechnology. Nanogate covers a wide range of industries, functions and substrates already on the basis of technology platforms. The company thus provides a decisive interface for the commercialisation of chemical nanotechnology, bridges the gap between raw materials and their industrial conversion into products and concentrates as an enabler on one of the most attractive segments in the industry. As a partner in innovation, Nanogate provides many services along the value chain – from development and production of innovative nanocomposites and nanostructured materials to powerful support for innovation and product integration.

The Nanogate Group currently has 57 employees in all (as of 1 July 2007) and since commencing operations in 1999 has been a pioneer in nanotechnology. Nanogate is a high-growth company and has operated profitably since financial year 2004. In financial year 2006 it boosted consolidated sales by about 64% to around €7.84 million. Consolidated earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) to IFRS increased by about 220% to around €1.1 million in 2006. The company has first-class customer references, such as ABB, BSH Bosch-Siemens Hausgeräte, Kärcher and Koenig & Bauer AG, and many years' experience of different industries and applications. It has also entered into strategic cooperation with US companies Dow Corning and Ceradyne/ESK Ceramics and Authentix and with Giesecke & Devrient. The Group's consolidation entity includes Nanogate Advanced Materials GmbH, which specialises in safety engineering and optics and is a joint venture with the US Air Products group. Nanogate also holds a strategic investment with a majority option in HOLMENKOL Sport-Technologies GmbH & Co. KG.

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