



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Cooperation between Nanogate and GEA Air Treatment launched successfully with first orders**

**New generation of filter systems currently at the development stage – great deal of interest in multifunctional, antibacterial solutions**

**Göttelborn, Germany, 10 February 2011. Nanogate AG (ISIN DE000A0JKHC9), a leading international systems provider for nanotechnology, and GEA Air Treatment GmbH, a GEA Group company, have received their first orders for the fruits of their cooperation. Both companies are broadening their product portfolios and are currently developing a new generation of filter systems. Nanogate is also acquiring a technology package from its shareholding sarastro GmbH to complement its portfolio and thereby support the current cooperation.**

The partnership has set itself the objective of developing and selling multifunctional filter systems for use in ventilation. Innovative bag filters for air filtration have been developed on the basis of existing filter systems from GEA Air Treatment and with the help of technology from Nanogate. The first orders have already been received. A new generation of filter systems which combine multiple functions, for example in the form of antistatic or flame-retardant properties, is currently being developed. There is a particularly high level of customer interest in antimicrobial filter systems.

“The first orders for GEA Air Treatment filters arising from our collaboration with them confirm the high level of performance that this technology provides,” commented Ralf Zastrau, CEO of Nanogate AG. “Our materials have proved their worth in serial production. The high pace of innovation, from the development stage to the product, is due in no small part to our modular platform strategy



with which we as a systems provider for nanotechnology can quickly implement customer solutions virtually on demand.”

### **Technology portfolio expanded**

Nanogate has also acquired an extensive technology package from its shareholding sarastro GmbH. This package is currently being used within the scope of the partnership with GEA Air Treatment and in other projects. The technology enables functional textiles in numerous spheres of application to be equipped with better hygienic properties, for example by applying a system of antimicrobial protection. This expertise has also been used in the “permaProtect Membran” platform, for which Nanogate generated a mid-range six-figure sum in earnings in the last financial year. As part of the transaction, Nanogate is also converting its equity holding of 25.1 % in sarastro into a dormant equity holding.

“With this transaction we are securing for ourselves a complementary and proven technology on attractive terms. Furthermore, we are expecting continuous growth in international demand for top-selling applications and are now in a position to implement further solutions for the market quickly,” Zastrau adds.

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### **GEA Group:**

GEA Group Aktiengesellschaft is one of the largest suppliers of technology and components for the production of food and energy, with Group sales in 2010 of over EUR 4.4 billion. As an international technology group, the company focuses on process technology and components for sophisticated production processes for various end-user markets. The company generates around 70 % of its sales in the food and energy sectors, which are long-term growth industries. The group employed over 20,000 people worldwide as of 31 December 2010. GEA Group is a market and technology leader in its business areas. It is listed in Germany’s MDAX stock index (G1A, SIN



660200). The GEA Group also has an unlimited, sponsored Level 1 American Depositary Receipt programme (ADR) in the United States.

**Nanogate AG:**

Nanogate is a leading international integrated nanotechnology systems provider with a focus on enhancing surfaces. The firm, which is based in Göttelborn (Saarland), enables the programming and integration of additional properties – such as non-stick, antibacterial, anti-corrosive and ultra-low friction – into materials and surfaces. As an enabler, 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. The company thus provides a decisive interface for the commercial use of chemical nanotechnology and bridges the gap between the suppliers of raw materials and industrial conversion into products. In doing so, Nanogate concentrates as an enabler on one of the most attractive segments in the industry. Nanogate has a unique combination of extensive materials expertise paired with comprehensive, first-class process and production know-how from the majority stake in GfO acquired in 2010. As a systems provider and jointly with GfO, Nanogate covers the entire value chain from purchasing raw materials, synthesising and formulating the material systems, right through to enhancing and producing the finished surfaces.

The Nanogate Group currently has approximately 220 employees in all and since commencing operations in 1999 has been a trailblazer in nanotechnology. The company has first-class customer references (e.g. ABB, BSH Bosch-Siemens Haushaltsgeräte, Junkers, Kärcher, Koenig & Bauer AG, Opel and REWE Austria) and many years' experience of different industries and applications. To date, more than 200 projects have gone into mass production. Nanogate has also entered into strategic cooperations with international companies such as the GEA Group and Dow Corning. Nanogate consists of Nanogate Industrial Solutions GmbH, FNP GmbH for products in the sport/leisure sector, majority stakes in Holmenkol AG and GfO Gesellschaft für Oberflächentechnik mbH as well as a shareholding in sarastro GmbH.

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