

**Die Chemie-Gruppe****The Chemical Group**
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tegee.at**Caramba Chemical Group****Majority stake in the trading company Apex**

Künzelsau/Blucina, November 23, 2010: As of November 22, 2010, the Caramba Chemical Group, Künzelsau (D), has taken a majority stake in the trading company Apex, Blucina (CZ). The acquisition is a further step towards the implementation of our vision to become the leading system provider for chemical products and services in the field of cleaning, care and maintenance.

Until now, Christian Maurer GmbH, Vienna, has been operating very successfully in Austria, Hungary and Romania. With our participation in Corra in April 2010, we took the opportunity to split the business in Austria into professional and consumer sales. With Apex, the activities of the Chemical Group will now also focus on the Czech Republic and Slovakia, actively continuing our expansion into southeast Europe.

Apex Central Europa s.r.l., founded in 2003, provides customers in the oil, automotive, commercial vehicle, industrial, catering and retail sectors with around 2,000 items in the field of cleaning, care and maintenance. With a staff of 16, the company has annual sales of 1.5 million euros. The company will be incorporated into Christian Maurer GmbH.

The Caramba Chemical Group

Besides Christian Maurer GmbH, Pressbaum (A), and the trading company Corra, Pöggstall (A), the companies Caramba Chemie GmbH & Co. KG, Duisburg (D), Tegee-Chemie Bremen GmbH, Bremen (D) and Wigo Chemie GmbH, Bad Kreuznach (D) all operate together under the umbrella of the Caramba Chemical Group. More than 400



Die Chemie-Gruppe

employees at 12 locations in Europe develop, produce and sell chemical products and services in the field of cleaning, care and maintenance from a single source. In fiscal year 2009/10 they achieved net sales of over 70 million euros.

The Caramba Chemical Group is part of the internationally operating Combined Berner Group in Künzelsau (D) with approx. 8,000 employees, which last year achieved net sales of 856 million euros. For more information see: www.caramba-group.com