
Press Release

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Yverdon-les-Bains, 16 September 2009

Leclanché completes sale of historic site

Yverdon-les-Bains, 16 September 2009 – Leclanché SA has sold the last part of its historic company site at Avenue de Grandson in Yverdon-les-Bains to the real estate company Village 52 SA. The price for the approx. 20,000 m² amounts to 5.5 million CHF. The company has occupied the site – 72,000 m² in total – since its foundation in 1909. A first part of the real estate was sold in 2007 to VHF-Technologies SA (Flexcell), a manufacturer of photovoltaic modules; a second part was sold in 2008 to the real estate company Jacques Leuba SA & associés. In May 2008 Leclanché relocated to its new headquarters in Avenue des Sports 42 in Yverdon.

With the sale of the last real estate asset Leclanché has reached an important milestone in its strategic refocusing on lithium ion technology. The proceeds of the sale will be invested to further increase the production capacity of large-size lithium ion batteries. The specialisation in such high performance batteries is opening up fresh opportunities for Leclanché, in particular in the emergence of hybrid vehicles and in the storage of energy from renewable sources.

Media Contact:

Kilian Rötzer, CNC AG: phone +41 43 344-9673, kilian.roetzer@cnc-communications.com

Contact for regional media and technical trade press:

Björn Richter, Leclanché SA: phone +41 24 424-6535, bjoern.richter@leclanche.com

About Leclanché

Leclanché is a leading manufacturer in Europe of large-size lithium ion batteries. Through a unique, licensed separator technology, the core element of lithium ion batteries, Leclanché is capable of manufacturing cells with above-average safety features in an automated production process. The company's core markets are industries that make the highest demands on energy storage systems, e.g. the aerospace industry, the defence sector and medical technology. Leclanché is consistently developing its business towards future markets for lithium ion batteries. They include electrical vehicles, large hybrid diesel engines and energy storage systems that enable better utilisation of the power supply system.

Leclanché was founded in 1909 in Yverdon-les-Bains. Through the integration of a spin-off from the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft in 2006 the company developed from being a traditional battery manufacturer to becoming a leading developer and manufacturer of lithium ion batteries in Europe.

Leclanché currently employs 70 staff and recorded CHF 13 million revenue in 2008. The company is headquartered in Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland) and has factories located in Willstätt und Itzehöhe (Germany). Leclanché is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (LECN).

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