

A. SCHULMAN ACQUIRES ELIAN SAS

Acquisition Strengthens A. Schulman's Global Color Masterbatch Specialty Market Position

"Elian is an excellent strategic fit which will move A. Schulman into the number-three position in the color masterbatch market in France. The addition of Elian to our European organization will significantly improve our product mix in the EMEA region by allowing us to leverage our full portfolio of masterbatch products with a wider customer base. Our strategic goal is to become the leading global manufacturer of masterbatch and we will continue to seek out global opportunistic acquisitions that will diversify our end markets and provide profitable long-term growth to our shareholders."

Joseph M. Gingo – CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF A. SCHULMAN

OVERVIEW

On January 30, 2012, A. Schulman, Inc. (Nasdaq-GS: SHLM) announced it entered into a definitive agreement to purchase Elian SAS, a French portfolio company of British Vita plc and a leading producer of highly specialized color masterbatch products. The transaction reflects A. Schulman's focus on becoming the leading global manufacturer of masterbatch, diversifying end markets and generating profitable long-term global growth.

Elian is an excellent strategic fit for A. Schulman as it brings:

- Superior product quality, technology and customer service
- Access to high-growth, diversified end markets such as healthcare, cosmetics, packaging, pipes and tubing and personal hygiene products
- The opportunity to leverage A. Schulman's full portfolio of masterbatch products with an expanded customer base
- An experienced management team with a keen focus on quality and innovation

Elian will complement A. Schulman's current European color operations in Belgium, Sweden, Poland, Hungary, United Kingdom and Italy. The two companies believe this transaction will bring significant value and opportunity to the customers of the combined business.

ABOUT ELIAN SAS

Elian SAS is based in Oyonnax, France, and is a leading producer of highly specialized color masterbatch products. Founded in 1949, the Company has approximately 100 associates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.shlm-elianprofile.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT

A number of the matters discussed on this site that are not historical or current facts deal with potential future circumstances and developments and may constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historic or current facts and relate to future events and expectations. Forward-looking statements contain such words as “anticipate,” “estimate,” “expect,” “project,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” and other words and terms of similar meaning in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance. Forward-looking statements are based on management’s current expectations and include known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which management is unable to predict or control, that may cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by these forward-looking statements, and that could adversely affect the Company’s future financial performance, include, but are not limited to, the following:

- worldwide and regional economic, business and political conditions, including continuing economic uncertainties in some or all of the Company’s major product markets or countries where the Company has operations or countries where the Company has operations;
- the effectiveness of the Company’s efforts to improve operating margins through sales growth, price increases, productivity gains, and improved purchasing techniques;
- competitive factors, including intense price competition;
- fluctuations in the value of currencies in major areas where the Company operates;
- volatility of prices and availability of the supply of energy and raw materials that are critical to the manufacture of the Company’s products, particularly plastic resins derived from oil and natural gas;
- changes in customer demand and requirements;
- effectiveness of the Company to achieve the level of cost savings, productivity improvements, growth and other benefits anticipated from acquisitions and restructuring initiatives;
- escalation in the cost of providing employee health care;
- uncertainties regarding the resolution of pending and future litigation and other claims;
- the performance of the global auto market; and
- further adverse changes in economic or industry conditions, including global supply and demand conditions and prices for products.

The risks and uncertainties identified above are not the only risks the Company faces. Additional risk factors that could affect the Company’s performance are set forth in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K and the most recent Form 10-Q. In addition, risks and uncertainties not presently known to the Company or that it believes to be immaterial also may adversely affect the Company. Should any known or unknown risks or uncertainties develop into actual events, or underlying assumptions prove inaccurate, these developments could have material adverse effects on the Company’s business, financial condition and results of operations.