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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DSM Desotech Receives Global Safety Award

Elgin, Illinois, April 4, 2006— DSM Desotech Inc., a world leader in the development and supply of high performance UV-curable materials, announced today that its Stanley, North Carolina, facility has been named winner of the 2005 DSM SHE Award for top performance in the area of Safety, Health & Environment (SHE). The winning site is chosen annually from among more than 200 DSM locations worldwide.



Above: DSM Desotech's Stanley, NC site has been named DSM's top performer in Safety, Health & Environment worldwide for 2005. Desotech's two U.S. sites have logged more than 25 combined years without a lost time accident.

"The DSM SHE Award recognizes best performance practices related to the personal safety and health of associates, environmental responsibility, and its community reputation," says John Aviles, Stanley Site Manager. "We are extremely pleased to receive this global recognition of our efforts."

DSM Desotech is a company familiar with recognition for outstanding safety performance. In 1998, the company's headquarters location in Elgin, IL also received the DSM SHE Award and, in all, Desotech has earned eight consecutive nominations for the honor. (Desotech's Stanley site was named runner up in 2003). In 2004, DSM Desotech was recognized by *Occupational Hazards* magazine as one of America's 16 Safest Companies and, in 2006, Desotech-Stanley is scheduled to receive its ninth consecutive North Carolina Department of Labor Safety Award.

Desotech SHEQ (Safety, Health, Environment and Quality) Manager Debbie Clay credits the company's safety success to several key factors:

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- A strong SHE focus from DSM's top management.
- A local management team that is personally committed to safety, health and the environment.
- A positive safety culture where associates look out for one another and reduce risks on their own.
- A proactive system for dealing with all incidents (including "close calls") and benchmarking with other DSM sites.

DSM Desotech's Charlotte operation relocated to the state-of-the-art Stanley production facility in 2002. Today, approximately 55 associates work at the site, which manufactures UV-curable coatings, inks and matrix materials for optical fiber and cable.

### **More about DSM Desotech**

DSM Desotech ([www.dsmdesotech.com](http://www.dsmdesotech.com)) is a world leader in the development and manufacture of high-performance UV-curable materials used in a variety of today's top industries. In telecommunications, Desotech is the world's leading supplier of protective coatings, inks and matrix materials used for the production of glass optical fiber and optical cable. In Rapid Prototyping, DSM Desotech's unincorporated subsidiary, DSM Somos® ([www.dsmsomos.com](http://www.dsmsomos.com)), is a leading materials supplier of stereolithography liquids used for the creation of three-dimensional models and prototypes directly from digital data. Desotech operates research and manufacturing facilities in the United States, The Netherlands, China and Japan, and is a business unit within the Performance Materials cluster of the global DSM group headquartered in the Netherlands.

### **More about DSM**

DSM is active worldwide in nutritional and pharma ingredients, performance materials and industrial chemicals. The company creates innovative products and services that help improve the quality of life. DSM's products are used in a wide range of end markets and applications such as human and animal nutrition and health, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, automotive and transport, coatings, housing and electrics & electronics (E&E). DSM's strategy, named *Vision 2010 – Building on Strengths*, focuses on accelerating profitable and innovative growth of the company's specialties portfolio. Market-driven growth, innovation and increased presence in emerging economies are key drivers of this strategy. The group has annual sales of approximately EUR 8 billion and employs around 22,000 people worldwide. DSM ranks among the global leaders in many of its fields. The company is headquartered in the Netherlands, with locations in Europe, Asia and the Americas. More information about DSM can be found at [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com)

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