

DSM Desotech

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DSM Desotech Wins Safety/Health/Environment Award UV materials supplier remains one of “Americas Safest Companies”

Elgin, Illinois, May 9, 2007— DSM Desotech Inc., a world leader in the development and supply of high performance UV-curable materials, has been named winner of the 2006 DSM SHE Award for top performance in the areas of **Safety, Health & Environment**. It is the latest of several safety awards earned by the Elgin-based chemical coatings supplier, which was named one of “America’s Safest Companies” in 2004 by Occupational Hazards Magazine.



DSM Desotech is a top performer worldwide in the areas of Safety, Health and the Environment (SHE). The company’s Elgin-based site has logged more than 6,100 days without a lost time accident.

“The DSM SHE Award is given annually to the one DSM site worldwide that best demonstrates outstanding safety, health and environmental practices,” says DSM Desotech Elgin Site Manager

Jason Castro. Performance areas considered include injury and occupational illness rates, absenteeism trends, reporting and corrective action practices, proactive health/fitness initiatives, and environmental practices. “Given the size and scope of DSM’s global operation—with more than 200 sites competing for this award each year—this is a very prestigious honor,” says Castro.

In addition to receiving the DSM SHE Award, DSM Desotech has also been recognized this year with the Illinois Safety Council’s “Outstanding Safety Performance Award.” Desotech SHE Manager Jill Ryan credits the company’s consistent safety success to several key factors:

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- A strong SHE focus from DSM's top management.
- Local site management teams that are personally committed to safety, health and the environment.
- A positive "safety culture" where associates develop an internalized focus on safety
- A proactive system for dealing with all incidents (including "close calls") and benchmarking with other DSM sites.

More about DSM Desotech

DSM Desotech (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), is a leading 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

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