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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## DSM Desotech Takes Patent Action Against Herkula in German Court

Elgin, Illinois, October 25, 2004—DSM Desotech has filed suit against Farbwerke Herkula St. Vith S.A. in Belgium and its sister company in Germany, at the district court of Dusseldorf (Landesgericht). The suit, filed on October 19, alleges patent-related infringements involving Herkula UV-curable fiber optic inks.

Desotech first filed suit against Herkula last year in Belgium. This new suit is based on analysis of information and product samples gathered in the Belgian proceedings. "DSM Desotech has become the leading supplier of UV-curable materials to the optical fiber industry because of our innovations and dedication to the market", said Desotech VP of Fiber Optic Materials Patrick Niels. "Protection of intellectual property rights is crucial to the well-being of the entire market and we look forward to the resolution of this matter."

### **About DSM Desotech**

DSM Desotech is a global supplier of high-performance UV-curable materials and the world's leading supplier of coatings, inks and matrix resins used for the production of optical fiber and optical fiber cable. In 1988, the company introduced Cablelite® UV-curable Inks to the market and, since that time, has developed an extensive intellectual property portfolio around the product line. In 1999, a second generation of Cablelite inks—Cablelite® 751— was commercialized. Cablelite Inks are currently sold into more than 30 countries worldwide.

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Other brands in DSM Desotech's product portfolio include DeSolite<sup>®</sup> Optical Fiber Coatings, Bufferlite<sup>™</sup> Tight Buffer Materials, DeSolite<sup>®</sup> Display Materials and OptoClear<sup>™</sup> Nano-Structured Anti-Reflective Coatings for display applications.

DSM Desotech operates as a business unit of Koninklijke DSM N.V., headquartered in the Netherlands. In addition to its U.S. facilities, Desotech also operates facilities in Europe and Asia and maintains a global network of sales agents throughout more than 20 countries. More information about DSM Desotech can be found at: [www.dsmdesotech.com](http://www.dsmdesotech.com)

### **About DSM**

DSM is active worldwide in life science and nutritional products, performance materials and industrial chemicals. The company creates innovative products and services that help improve the quality of life. DSM's products are being applied 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). The group has annual sales (pro forma including the recent acquisition - renamed DSM Nutritional Products) of approximately EUR 8 billion and employs in the region of 25,000 people around the world. DSM ranks among the global leaders in many of its fields. DSM is headquartered in the Netherlands, with locations in Europe, Asia and the Americas. Visit [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com) for more information.

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