

June 6, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DSM Somos Contact: Eva Montgomery, Tel. 847-468-7741, eva.montgomery@dsm.com

J4 Communications Contact: Mark Bruner, J4 Communications, Tel. 330-769-2709; j4com@apk.net

DSM Somos® Drives SL Innovation, Application Development with 2006 Product Introductions

Elgin, Illinois, June 6, 2006— During *Rapid Prototyping and Manufacturing 2006*, held May 23-25 in St. Charles, IL (North America's largest annual Rapid Manufacturing event), stereolithography resin leader DSM Somos officially introduced its line-up of new materials for 2006.

"This year's new resin offerings reflect DSM Somos' commitment to driving the market forward with both material innovation and application development," says Somos Marketing Manager Eva Montgomery. "In particular, we've continued our focus on materials that will move the RP market closer to direct manufacturing."

Somos NanoTool™

NanoTool™ is the third resin to be introduced within DSM Somos' line of reinforced composite materials for conventional stereolithography (SL). In 2003, ProtoTool™ 20L delivered novel capabilities to the RP market including stiffness up to 300% higher than unfilled resins, ultra low shrinkage and standard-setting thermal properties. In 2004, NanoForm™ 15120 provided the SL industry with the first 100% nano-filled material, offering enhanced stiffness and accuracy with the processing ease of unfilled resins.

This year, NanoTool™ successfully combines the best features of these innovative Somos composite resins into one new material. Enhanced processing speeds (>30% increase) and ease of secondary processing further advance the use of composite SL resins in applications such as wind tunnel testing, rapid tooling and metal plating of structural composites.

—more—

Somos 18120 ProtoGen™ O-XT Clear & 18420 ProtoGen™ O-XT White

Based on Somos' oxetane chemistry (the Oxetane Advantage™), ProtoGen™ O-XT Clear & White resins offer high dimensional stability via low water absorption and high green strength. Other advantages of these new multipurpose materials include faster processing speeds with higher accuracy and heat deflection temperatures (HDT of 70°C with UV-only post-treatment and >100°C with thermal post-treatment).

Somos first harnessed oxetane chemistry more than four years ago in order to move ahead of traditional SL acrylate and epoxy chemistries in producing the standard-setting dimensional stability of its ABS-like WaterShed™ 11120 and Somos White 14120 resins. Today, Somos' next generation of oxetane SL materials is designed to further expand the performance parameters of multipurpose SL resins.

Somos 19120 ProtoCast™ AF

Targeted for the investment casting industry, ProtoCast™ AF is a completely antimony-free version of Somos' new ProtoGen™ O-XT Clear resin. The material boasts extremely low ash content and is targeted for use with both fused silica and alumina refractory shell systems. Like ProtoGen™ O-XT, ProtoCast™ AF is also formulated with Somos Oxetane Advantage™ chemistry, for high dimensional stability and green strength.

All four of Somos' 2006 product introductions are currently in beta testing, with full commercialization expected later this year. For more product details, and updates on the availability of these materials in your region, contact DSM Somos at Americas@dmsomos.info.

About DSM Somos®

DSM Somos is currently the world's second largest materials supplier to the rapid prototyping industry, providing stereolithography liquids used for the creation of three-dimensional models and prototypes directly from digital data. Somos' patented ProtoFunctional® materials are used by a variety of industries, including automotive, aerospace, medical and telecommunications.

Somos' corporate office is located at: 1122 St. Charles Street, Elgin, IL 60120 (Tel +1-847-697-0400), Americas@dmsomos.info . For more information on DSM Somos® in Europe: Fax. +39 06 9871694, Europe@dmsomos.info

DSM Somos is an unincorporated division of DSM Desotech—a world leader in the development of UV-curable materials—and a member of the global DSM family. More information about the companies can be found at www.dsmsomos.com and www.dsmdesotech.com.

About DSM Somos® Materials

What is stereolithography?

Stereolithography (SL) permits the rapid creation of 3D pieces utilizing a computer-controlled laser that polymerizes light-sensitive resins. The process is highly precise and constructs the object in a series of "additive layers," providing the advantage of producing highly complex forms that are difficult or impossible to fabricate by machining or traditional molding techniques. The evolution of advanced SL materials offers the potential of moving stereolithography from prototyping into manufacturing.

DSM Somos ProtoComposites™ are resins reinforced with various materials, such as ceramics and glasses, to produce functional properties not possible using individual components. DSM Somos ProtoComposite materials are a result of a significant research and development program investigating the potential for ACT-SL™ (Advanced Composite Technology for StereoLithography). In 2003, DSM Somos announced ProtoTool™ ceramic-filled resins, the first member belonging to the new ACT-SL™ technology.

DSM Somos ProtoFunctional® resins for stereolithography provide advanced technology to respond to the changing needs of new product development and industrial design. Traditional non-composite ProtoFunctional materials by DSM Somos satisfy a varying range of characteristics: transparency, superior humidity and heat resistance, and outstanding mechanical properties, replicating those of many production grade plastics such as polypropylene, polyethylene, ABS and PBT. Technical data on all Somos® materials may be found at www.dsmsomos.com

XXX

® : registered trademarks of DSM
™ : trademarks of DSM



Protection of Trademarks and Copyright :

DSM cordially asks those who use this press release to use the classic registered trademark symbol ® and indicate DSM as the owner of the trademark quoted. The use of images made available by DSM is authorized only in reference to DSM editorial material. For other uses, please ask DSM authorization. The same indications are extended to the trademarks of the clients of DSM.