

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **DSM Desotech and Vantico A&T Reach Patent Dispute Settlement Agreement**

Elgin, Illinois, July 16, 2003— DSM Desotech Inc. and Vantico A&T US, Inc. announced that they have entered into a settlement agreement to resolve patent-related disputes involving their respective stereolithography resin products, as an alternative to court proceedings. Accordingly, DSM Desotech Inc. has dismissed the legal proceedings initiated in January 2002 at the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware.

James Reitz, business manager for DSM Desotech's solid imaging business activities (DSM Somos<sup>®</sup>, New Castle, DE) notes, "The agreement provides a fair and cost-effective way to resolve intellectual property issues in this developing high-tech market niche, while minimizing disruption of this young market."

George Sollner, global head of Vantico's tooling value sector, adds, "We are pleased that this matter has been settled and that both companies are free to continue with their respective plans to support the SL market through the development, testing and introduction of new SL resins that meet the growing and changing needs of customers."

DSM Desotech is a world leader in the development of UV-curable materials and produces a broad range of high-performance solid imaging materials through its subsidiary business, DSM Somos<sup>®</sup>. Designed to respond to the needs of new product development and industrial design, Somos ProtoFunctional<sup>®</sup> resins are recognized around the world and include the industry's first water

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resistant and high-temperature resistant materials, the first stereolithography materials to mimic properties of traditional engineering plastics, and the first composite materials for solid imaging. DSM Somos® also offers materials for selective laser sintering and is the first manufacturer of powder elastomeric polymer (Somos® 201) that can be sintered to produce highly flexible parts with "rubber like" characteristics. Each family of Somos® photopolymer epoxy resins is comprised of materials specially formulated and optimized for the variety of stereolithography platforms commercially available. For more information, visit **[www.dsmdesotech.com](http://www.dsmdesotech.com)** and **[www.dsmsomos.com](http://www.dsmsomos.com)**.

### About DSM

DSM Desotech is a business unit of the DSM business group Coating Resins. DSM is active worldwide in life science products, performance materials and industrial chemicals. The group had annual sales in 2002 of close to EUR 5.6 billion and employs approximately 18,500 people at more than 200 sites across the world. DSM ranks among the global leaders in many of its fields. The company's strategic aim is to grow its sales – partly through acquisitions – to a level of approximately EUR 10 billion by 2005. By that time at least 80% of sales should be generated by specialties, i.e. advanced chemical and biotechnological products for the life science industry and performance materials. This strategy represents a continuation of the company's ongoing transformation and concentration on global leadership positions in high-added-value activities characterized by high growth and more stable profit levels. More information about DSM can be found at **[www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com)**.

### About Vantico

Vantico manufactures a comprehensive range of RenShape®\*\* SL photopolymers which are used for the production of accurate, durable models with such diverse characteristics as humidity and high-temperature resistance and tough, ABS- and polypropylene-like properties. Vantico also produces and markets a broad range of RenShape® Solutions epoxy and polyurethane systems for modeling, moldmaking, prototyping and forming initial parts used in the automotive, foundry, aerospace and general manufacturing industries. The company has been a world leader in plastic tooling materials for more than 60 years and has been involved in the field of rapid prototyping, rapid modeling and rapid tooling since it developed some 15 years ago. For more information, visit **[www.renshape.com](http://www.renshape.com)**.

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\*RenShape is a registered trademark of Vantico AG, Basle, Switzerland.