

Paris, April 11, 2011

FSI is increasing its shareholding in Mersen's capital

Fonds Stratégique d'Investissement (FSI) is increasing its shareholding in Mersen's capital. FSI has announced that it holds 14.7% of the Company's shares, with Caisse des Dépôts. FSI has stated that depending on market conditions and opportunities it is considering making further purchases taking it above, but not significantly beyond 15% of the capital, with Caisse des Dépôts, and it does not intend to acquire control of the Company.

FSI is an equity investor that acquires minority shareholdings in French businesses pursuing industrial projects that unlock value for and boost the competitiveness of the French economy. With this increase in its interest, FSI has confirmed its position as a long-term shareholder supporting Mersen's expansion strategy.

The appointment of Bertrand Finet, a member of FSI's Executive Committee, to Mersen's Supervisory Board will be proposed at the AGM on May 19, 2011. He would then join Jocelyne Canetti as a Member of Mersen's Supervisory Board proposed by FSI in 2010.

Ernest Totino, Chairman of the Group's Management Board, said: *"This increase in FSI's interest in Mersen's capital is a highly positive sign. I am very happy that FSI is placing its trust in us and that it has made the decision to support the Group's development over the long term. I am also delighted that Bertrand Finet is joining the Supervisory Board".*

Bertrand Finet commented: *"Mersen is a world leader in applications of advanced technologies. The Company's performance since we first acquired a stake in its capital has convinced us of the pertinence of its strategy. The significant increase in our shareholding in Mersen illustrates our desire to act as a long-term shareholder in this business, as well as our confidence in the management team's ability to expand the Group."*

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About Mersen

Global expert in materials and solutions for extreme environments as well as in the safety and reliability of electrical equipment Mersen designs innovative solutions to address its clients' specific needs to enable them to optimize their manufacturing process in sectors such as energy, transportation, electronics, chemical, pharmaceutical and process industries

The Group is listed at Premier Marché de la Bourse de Paris.



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