



Valco Group selling Sontum Fire & Safety to Bjørge

Reference is made to the press release of June 11 2010 regarding Valco Group AS' sale of Sontum Fire & Safety AS to Bjørge FPE AS. The parties have now finalized the transaction

Sontum Fire & Safety AS is located at Coast Center Base (CCB) outside Bergen and has their primary focus on products and service within fire and safety towards oil & gas, maritime and land based industries. The company has 20 employees and will complement Bjørge FPE with high competence contributing to the further development of Bjørge FPE as a product, system and service provider within fire and safety.

Sontum Fire & Safety has a strong position within service and will together with Bjørge FPE deliver products and services to new projects, modifications and to a growing after-market.

The divestment of Sontum is part of Valco Group's strategy to strengthen the focus on business related to industrial valves. We are pleased to have completed this transaction as we are convinced that Sontum's competence and product offering will have further growth opportunities within the strategy of the buyer, says Oddbjørn Kopperstad, President & CEO of Valco Group.

For further information, contact

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About Valco Group

Valco Group (former Flowtech Division of Technor) is producing and providing industrial valves for a wide range of industrial applications. The head office is located in Stavanger, Norway. Valco Group is owned by Private equity investor HitecVision (see www.Hitecvision.com)

The Group has three operational companies in Norway (Westad Industri AS, Valco Valves & Automation AS and Sontum Fire & Safety AS) and three operational companies in France (Malbranque SAS, SNRI SAS and Valco Valves Services SAS). The Group revenue in 2009 was approximately 700 MNOK. The Group has about 400 employees.

Valco Group have valves and related products and services for applications worldwide within Marine sector, Oil & Gas upstream, Oil & Gas downstream and Energy & Industry.

Valco Group's product portfolio contains strong and well established valve brands from in-house production as well as provision of third party products.

Our experience has demonstrated our capability to handle the combination of high pressure and low temperatures. We are also involved in providing products which covers sour services as well as any type of applications where product quality matters. Over the last few years substantial investments in production equipment has been allocated to our facilities in Norway and France. These have been justified by our ambitions to grow our business in the European home market as well as maintain and expand our business on the global market place. Restructuring and repositioning is our every day topic, as we are looking forward and taking full advantage on demonstrated performance within different branches of the energy sector.

For further information – see www.valcogroup.no

About Sontum

Sontum Fire & Safety has almost 30 years of Oil & Gas industry experience. The business concept is based on providing a wide specter of Fire & Safety products and services to Offshore Oil & Gas sector, On-shore terminals, Shipping, Industry buildings, Public buildings etc. See more about the company on <http://sontum.valcogroup.no> or about the products and services at "[Fire & Safety](#)" on our web-page.

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