

## Press Release: 6 September 2007

**ASHLAND**



**SinterCast**  
— Supermetal CGI —

### **Ashland Casting Solutions, International Casting Corporation and SinterCast combine talents to deliver performance**

- **Concept-to-production support for CGI components**
- **International Casting Corporation to install SinterCast Mini-System 2000**

DUBLIN, Ohio (USA), NEW BALTIMORE, Michigan (USA) and STOCKHOLM (Sweden) – The idea to provide customers with a strategic advantage in Compacted Graphite Iron (CGI) metal casting led to a recently-signed agreement between Ashland Casting Solutions, a business group of Ashland Performance Materials, a division of Ashland Inc. (NYSE:ASH); International Casting Corporation, a specialty-product and niche-volume cast iron and cast steel foundry; and SinterCast, the Swedish (CGI) process control specialist (Stockholmsbörsen: SINT). The companies have agreed to combine their individual core competencies to provide complete solutions for CGI product design, development and prototype production.

The combined capabilities of Ashland Casting Solutions, International Casting Corporation and SinterCast will provide concept-to-production support for new CGI components, including optimisation of core blowing, mould filling and solidification, component design for series production, prototyping and machining. Under the terms of the tripartite collaboration, International Casting Corporation will install a SinterCast Mini-System 2000 for the independent production of CGI prototype castings under series production conditions. The melting and casting facilities at International Casting Corporation enable the production of CGI components from 0.5 kg to 350 kg.

“Building upon our successful marketing and technical alliance established with SinterCast in 2005, this expansion to encompass CGI design services, product development and prototyping skills, pulls together the components necessary to meet the current and future needs of the global automotive industry,” **said Scott Hoertz, Vice President, Ashland Performance Materials, and General Manager, Ashland Casting Solutions.** “With the combined expertise and innovation of Ashland, International Casting Corporation and SinterCast, we are confident that we will be able to optimise CGI product designs and provide our customers with an efficient transition from CGI conception to series production.”

“The continuous increase in CGI development and production planning provides an excellent opportunity for International Casting Corporation to apply its ferrous metallurgy product development and niche-volume production skills to the CGI arena,” **said Douglas Smith, President of International Casting Corporation.** “We look forward to working together with Ashland and SinterCast as CGI technology leaders to support CGI product development programs in North America and abroad.”

“The collaboration with Ashland and International Casting Corporation significantly broadens SinterCast’s ability to promote new CGI product development activities and to support the subsequent CGI series production needs of the world automotive industry,” **said Steve Dawson, President & CEO of SinterCast.** “The combination of Ashland’s Design Services capabilities with International Casting Corporation’s moulding, melting and casting capabilities represents another important step forward for Compacted Graphite Iron.”

Dublin, New Baltimore and Stockholm, 6 September 2007

- more -

**Scott O. Hoertz**  
**Vice President**  
**Ashland Casting Solutions**  
5200 Blazer Parkway  
Dublin, OH 43017  
USA  
Tel: +1 614 790 6766  
sohoertz@ashland.com

**Douglas Smith**  
**President**  
**International Casting Corporation**  
37087 Green Street  
New Baltimore MI 48047  
USA  
Tel: +1 586 293 8220  
internationalcastingcorp@msn.com

**Dr. Steve Dawson**  
**President & CEO**  
**SinterCast AB (publ)**  
Box 10203  
SE-100 55 Stockholm  
Sweden  
Tel: +46 8 660 7750  
steve.dawson@sintercast.com

#### **About Ashland**

Ashland Casting Solutions, a business group of Ashland Performance Materials, is a leader in supplying products, processes, services and technologies to the global metal casting marketplace.

Ashland Performance Materials, a division of Ashland Inc., is a worldwide manufacturer and supplier of specialty chemicals and customised services to the building and construction, packaging and converting, transportation, marine and metal casting industries. It is a technology leader in metal casting consumables and design services; unsaturated polyester and vinyl ester resins and gelcoats; and high-performance adhesives and specialty resins.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), a diversified, global chemical company, provides quality products, services and solutions to customers in more than 100 countries. A FORTUNE 500 company, it operates through four divisions: Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Distribution, Valvoline and Ashland Water Technologies. To learn more about Ashland, visit [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com).

#### **About International Casting Corporation**

International Casting Corporation is a family owned and operated specialty iron and steel foundry with 47 years of experience serving the sand casting needs of the automotive and aeronautical industries. International Casting Corporation produces a variety of steel, tool steel, stainless steel and cast irons with casting weights ranging from 0.5 kg to 6.8 tonnes, including on-site spectrographic analysis. International Casting Corporation has the ability to do metallography and nondestructive testing. To learn more about International Casting Corporation, visit [www.internationalcastingcorp.com](http://www.internationalcastingcorp.com).

#### **About SinterCast**

SinterCast AB (publ) is the world's leading supplier of process control technology for the reliable high volume production of Compacted Graphite Iron (CGI). SinterCast produces a variety of CGI components ranging from 8 kg to 17 tonnes, all using the same proven process control technology. SinterCast's production agreements encompass a total of 32 foundries in 14 different countries that account for approximately 50% of the world production capacity for cast iron cylinder blocks and heads. The SinterCast share is quoted on the Small Cap segment of the Nordic Exchange, Stockholm (Stockholmsbörsen: SINT). To learn more about SinterCast, visit [www.sintercast.com](http://www.sintercast.com).

END

FORTUNE 500 is a registered trademark of Time Inc