

SPECIALTY MATERIALS, INC.

Manufacturers of Boron and SCS Silicon Carbide Fibers and Boron Nanopowder

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Specialty Materials, Inc. Announces Silicon Carbide Fiber Price Reduction

Lowell, MA, May 19th, 2009 – Specialty Materials, Inc. (SMI) announced today that they have reduced the price of their SCS silicon carbide (SiC) fibers by 12% for volumes of at least 500 lbs annually. Pricing for volumes greater than 800 lbs is also available. SMI is in an excellent position to meet the anticipated increased demand, since plant capacity at their Lowell facility is 8,000 lbs/year with current production running at 75% of capacity. With ongoing process improvements and the addition of new reactors, the existing plant can be expanded to 20,000 lbs annual production in its current footprint.

“For years, our potential customers have been telling us they would be willing to use our SiC fiber in a production application if we could dramatically lower the cost, and we have been listening”, said Monte Treasure, SMI’s president. “The growth we have experienced by co-locating our boron and silicon carbide fiber operations has allowed us to expand our facility, improve our process, and lower our production costs. We intend to pass along those lower costs to our current and potential customers in order to grow our business into new applications.”

SMI is a privately held company that was formed in 2001 when it was sold by Textron Corporation. SCS fiber was developed in the 1970s primarily as reinforcement for titanium composites for turbine engine components. Over the next 30 years, the company worked with other companies to develop specific applications that could provide enough business to increase production and lower costs. “By increasing the volume of all fibers over the past few years, we have found many ways to improve our production efficiency, which in turn has resulted in lower costs”, added Dr. Al Kumnick, Director of Engineering.

In addition to its SCS fiber, SMI manufactures Boron fiber, most of which it converts to Boron epoxy prepreg tape for use in various aerospace and commercial applications. Both Boron and SCS silicon carbide fibers are monofilaments made by chemical vapor deposition. SMI has also used its expertise in gas phase chemical processing to develop a boron nanopowder for use in magnesium diboride superconductors. SMI is ISO 9001 certified.

For further information about this or other SMI products, please contact Bill Grant by e-mail at wgrant@specmaterials.com or by phone at 978-322-1972, or visit our website at www.specmaterials.com.

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