

# Press Release

Schaffhausen, March 9, 2006

## **Georg Fischer sells its stake in Coperion**

**Georg Fischer Ltd., Schaffhausen, has sold its 47 percent financial interest in Coperion to the majority shareholder West Private Equity, London. The transaction was concluded at a profit, and Georg Fischer will use the proceeds to reduce net debt further. The Coperion Group has successfully completed the final phase of its restructuring and will be continuing its course under the management of its new owner.**

In 2000, when Coperion was formed from the merger of Buss, Waeschle and Werner & Pfleiderer, West Private Equity was given a right to acquire majority ownership at a later date. In 2002 Georg Fischer therefore reduced its capital stake to 47 percent. Since then, it has held Coperion purely as a financial investment.

Today's sale of this interest dovetails with the original plans and is a further logical step in Georg Fischer's successful strategy of focusing on positioning its Automotive, Piping Systems and Machine Tools businesses at the forefront of their segments.

### **Corporate Profile Georg Fischer - "Adding Quality to People's Lives"**

Georg Fischer is focused on its three core businesses GF Automotive, GF Piping Systems and GF Machine Tools (AgieCharmilles GF). Founded in 1802, the company is headquartered in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, and has over 140 locations worldwide including 50 production facilities. With some 12,000 employees, it generated annual sales of 3.7 billion Swiss francs in 2005. The Corporation makes a direct contribution to the quality of life: Mobility, comfort and precision are key market requirements that we satisfy with our products and services. You'll find further information under [www.georgfischer.com](http://www.georgfischer.com).

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