



Contact: Will Chafin
AGY
1.803.643.1343

AGY Expands S-2 Glass[®] Manufacturing Capacity

Aiken, S.C., Oct. 6, 2004 – In response to continued growth in the use of high-performance glass fibers for composite reinforcement, AGY has launched a multi-phase expansion of its capacity to manufacture *S-2 Glass* products. When completed in 2005, the company will have increased capacity for *S-2 Glass* reinforcements by 25 percent.

Long considered the standard for high-strength glass fiber reinforcements, *S-2 Glass* has provided superior performance and quality for a wide variety of end-use applications across the global composites spectrum. AGY has maintained a steady supply of the product to the market and is now taking major steps to increase capacity and insure that this outstanding service and supply security continues.

“We expect the current strong demand for higher performance reinforcements to continue and we are investing in our plants and in our products to insure that we will meet these increasing demands,” says Douglas J. Mattscheck, AGY president and chief executive officer.

In 2004, AGY added approximately 10 percent to its production capacity through a series of projects aimed at optimizing efficiency and providing additional material to the market. These projects have been and continue to be successful in meeting the needs of the market today.

In addition to those programs, AGY today announced plans to install additional capacity at its Huntingdon, Pa. facility that will increase production output by approximately 15 percent for a total capacity increase of 25 percent.

“AGY has long taken pride in its ability to support the market’s needs for high performance products,” says Mattscheck. “The steps we have taken to expand capacity in 2004 and continuing these efforts through additional work in 2005 will continue that heritage of service.”

Originally developed for military applications in the 1960s, *S-2 Glass* was first introduced to the commercial market in 1968. Initially compatible with epoxy resins, the product’s compatibility has been expanded to include thermoplastics, polyesters and vinyl ester resins. The high-strength, high-performance product is used in a variety of markets including aerospace, defense, marine and recreation. The product is made exclusively by AGY.

S-2 Glass has tensile strength that exceeds that of standard-modulus carbon fiber as well as most grades of aramid fiber. S-2 Glass has impact strength similar to aramid fiber and its elongation-to-break performance is 5.7 percent compared to aramid's 2.8 percent and carbon's 1.5 percent, meaning that S-2 Glass will give significantly under strain before failure.

AGY is a leading global producer of fiberglass yarns and high strength fiberglass reinforcements used in a wide variety of composites applications. Headquartered in Aiken, S.C. (USA), AGY has a European office in Lyon, France, and manufacturing facilities in Aiken, S.C., and Huntingdon, Pa. Additional information may be found at the company's website, www.agy.com, or by email at info@agy.com.

###