



## Press Release

Düsseldorf, Germany, April 2, 2008

A huge leap in metal coating

### TecTalis – Henkel redefines metal pre-treatment

Henkel announces the launch of a new conversion coating process called TecTalis. This breakthrough multi-metal pre-treatment technology replaces Zinc Phosphate by offering significantly reduced process cost and environmental footprint. TecTalis has been enthusiastically received by the automotive and durable goods industry.

Zinc-phosphating has been the industry standard for decades. This technology offers enormous advantages such as superior corrosion resistance and paint adhesion. However, zinc phosphate technology has been challenged by increased demands for environmental performance and process efficiencies. As the industry leader for metal pretreatment Henkel has responded with the development of TecTalis. "TecTalis was designed to meet the performance standards of our premium Bonderite brand while significantly advancing the process and its overall sustainability", said Attilio Gatti, Corporate Senior Vice President Technologies Marketing & Product Development Henkel.

In addition the new technology is easily applicable in existing lines. TecTalis decreases labour cost drivers such as handling, analytics and maintenance. Indirect costs, like energy, disposal or water consumption are also reduced. The process operates at room temperature and generates virtually no sludge. It is free of phosphate, VOC, CO<sub>2</sub> and equivalent emissions. Profitability can be maximized by increased throughput, faster cycle times and reduced footprint.

Ford Motor Company and Kögel have been using this process since the beginning of 2008. "We are very pleased with the results we are achieving since the beginning", said Stefan Oberdörfer, Head of Marketing and Sales Services Kögel. "TecTalis is a tremendous help to optimize our operation conditions while assuring constant quality of our products."

For more than 130 years, Henkel has been a leader with brands and technologies that make people's lives easier, better and more beautiful. Henkel operates in three business areas – Home Care, Personal Care, and Adhesives Technologies – and ranks among the Fortune Global 500 companies. In fiscal 2007, Henkel generated sales of 13.074 billion euros and operating profit of 1,344 million euros. Our 53,000 employees worldwide are dedicated to fulfilling our corporate claim, "A Brand like a Friend," and ensuring that people in more than 125 countries can trust in brands and technologies from Henkel.



Henkel KGaA  
Head of Corporate Communications  
Ernst Primosch, Corporate Vice President

## Contact

### Europe

Sabina Hampe  
Brand & Business Unit Communications  
Phone: +49 211 797 - 7519  
Fax: +49 211 797 - 4040

Peter Lienkamp  
Brand & Business Unit Communications  
Phone: +49 211 797 - 1458  
Fax: +49 211 798 - 11458

— [press@henkel.com](mailto:press@henkel.com)

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— *Production of Trailers Chassis at Koegel.*