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Cifunsa Upgrades CGI Production Capability

Cifunsa S.A. de C.V., the largest independent foundry company in North America, has agreed with the Swedish company SinterCast to install a System 2000 process control system for the production of Compacted Graphite Iron (CGI). The System 2000 will replace the existing System 1000 that has been installed on Production Line 3 since 1996. The new SinterCast System 2000 installation will be uniquely configured to provide CGI production capability on Production Lines 1, 2, 3 and 4, with a combined annual production capacity of 230,000 metric tonnes of automotive and industrial cylinder block and head castings. The installation strengthens Cifunsa's position at the forefront of CGI product development and production capability for both passenger car and heavy-duty components.

Mr. José Manuel Garza, General Manager of the Metal and Mechanical Division of Cifunsa, said: "We have supported the CGI development activities for more than five of our customers since 1993 and we were the first foundry in the world to install the SinterCast System 1000. Now, as the development intensity and production planning of our car and truck customers increases we have secured the SinterCast System 2000 capability on all our production Lines. Cifunsa will be a leader in CGI product development and series production."

Dr. Steve Dawson, President & CEO of SinterCast, said: "We are pleased that Cifunsa's positive experiences with our technical capability and engineering service over the past years have lead to this new installation of our System 2000 process control technology. The Cifunsa decision to upgrade their CGI production capability reflects their confidence in SinterCast and in the future CGI production planning of their car and truck customers."

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Cifunsa is the largest independent foundry in North America with a total annual production capacity of 252,000 metric tonnes of grey and ductile iron. Cifunsa's main customers include DaimlerChrysler, General Motors, Volkswagen, Ford, John Deere, Caterpillar, Detroit Diesel, Cummins, International, Linamar, etc.

SinterCast is the world's leading supplier of automated on-line process control systems for the reliable high-volume production of CGI. With its System 2000 process control technology installed at nine foundries, including Caterpillar in the USA, Cifunsa in Mexico, Daros in Sweden, Halberg in Germany, ICC-International in the USA, SKF-Mekan in Sweden, Teksid in Italy, Tupy in Brazil and VDP in Italy, SinterCast's customers include Audi, Caterpillar, Daros Piston Rings, Ford, Rolls Royce Power Engineering and the SKF Group. SinterCast has delivered CGI prototype castings to 55 car, truck and engine manufacturers worldwide.

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