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Telefon +49(0)6442-208-0 / Telefax +49(0)6442-208-333 / AG mit Sitz in Solms / Amtsgericht Wetzlar HRB 966 /
AR-Vorsitzender: Dr. Hans Friderichs / Vorstand: Dr. Josef Spichtig (Vorsitzender)

Ad-hoc-Announcement according to § 15 WpHG

As already announced by ad-hoc announcement on 17 February 2006, SOCRATES Privatstiftung and ACM Projektentwicklung GmbH (a 100% subsidiary of SOCRATES Privatstiftung) have acquired a majority interest in Leica Camera AG; for details, please refer to the ad-hoc announcement of 17 February 2006.

In respect of the EUR 15,000,000 5.5% convertible bonds of 9 February 2004, due 3 March 2014 ("Convertible Bonds"), the Borrower, Leica Camera AG has today, 18 May 2006, announced a change of control as defined by the Terms and Conditions of the Convertible Bonds ("Terms and Conditions") and has fixed 3 July 2006 as the Control Record Date.

According to section 12 (2) of the Terms and Conditions, in case of the Borrower announcing a change of control as defined by the Terms and Conditions each Bondholder is eligible, at his or her option, to demand from the Borrower, within a period of not less than 20 days before the Control Record Date, the repayment of all or part of his or her Convertible Bonds not yet converted or called in at par plus interest accrued until (but not including) the day of repayment.

Hermès International SCA, Paris, France, which, according to the information available to the Company, holds approximately 96.5% of all Convertible Bonds issued, has informed Leica Camera AG that it will not exercise its repayment right according to section 12 (2) of the Terms and Conditions.