

Opta Minerals Inc. Acquires Abrasive Production Facility in Laval, Quebec

WATERDOWN, ON, Thursday, February 22, 2007 – Opta Minerals Inc.

(TSX: OPM), a vertically integrated producer, manufacturer, distributor and recycler of industrial minerals, silica-free loose abrasives, roofing shingle granules, specialty sands and related products, today announced that it has reached an agreement to acquire the production assets of an industrial minerals processing facility in Laval, Quebec. This leased 39,000 square foot facility is ideally suited to produce abrasive media for blasting purposes, as well as garnet for both abrasive, waterjet and water filtration applications. The assets were acquired from receivership for \$400,000. The plant is expected to begin commercial production early May, and the Company expects 2007 revenues from operations to be over \$1,000,000, with continued strong internal growth in the following years.

“We are very excited about this new addition to our group of companies” said Martin Caouette, Vice-President and General Manager, Eastern Division. “With a new, well located, flexible production facility in the eastern region, we will be able to supply the market with very competitive high quality products”.

“The inclusion of a production facility in Laval will further contribute to the Company's stated objective to become one of the dominant North American producers and suppliers of industrial minerals, silica-free loose abrasives, and roof shingle materials” said David Kruse, President and Chief Executive Officer. “There is strong demand for high quality abrasive, waterjet cutting media and water filtration materials in the Montreal area, as well as in New York State. Having a production facility such as this within the market will enable us to expand into this territory and continue to provide customers in both Canada and the U.S. with a full range of abrasives and industrial minerals”.

About Opta Minerals

Opta Minerals is a vertically integrated producer, manufacturer, distributor and recycler of industrial minerals, silica-free loose abrasives, roofing shingle granules, specialty sands and related products for use primarily in the foundry, steel, marine/bridge cleaning and municipal water filtration industries. The Company has experienced solid growth since July 1995, through a combination of internal growth and successfully integrated strategic acquisitions to become one of the dominant regional suppliers of silica-free loose abrasives in a number of select markets on the east coast of North America.

The Company currently has production and distribution facilities in Ontario, Quebec, Louisiana, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and New York and one of the broadest product lines in the industry. Recognizing that the fragmentation and lack of consolidation among suppliers in its industry has provided it with a strategic growth opportunity, the Company intends to capitalize on this opportunity to become one of the dominant North American suppliers of industrial minerals and silica-free loose abrasives. In order to achieve this objective, the Company intends to accelerate its revenue and market share growth over the next several years by making a number of additional strategic acquisitions, through geographic expansion and through continued development of new products and services.

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