

## Beckers Industrial Coatings and MatOx begin research collaboration

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Beckers Industrial Coatings Holdings AB and MatOx Oy announced today that they have entered into a three-year research and development collaboration. Under the terms of this agreement MatOx will use computational approaches to design new and unique coatings products with controllable functionality, which Beckers will have the option to bring to market.**

MatOx Oy, the wholly owned Finnish subsidiary of UK-based materials discovery company MatOx Ltd, is working with world-leading academics at Helsinki University of Technology (TKK) to develop and apply computational modeling and simulation in the design of breakthrough new materials. The work will be carried out at COMP, a national Centre of Excellence for computational nanoscience at TKK. MatOx will make this capability available to Beckers under the terms of the collaboration agreement and execute several projects targeting coatings with, for example, self-cleaning behaviour or physical properties that change in response to external stimuli. Both parties will share in the value realized through sales of products that result from the collaboration.

“Computational modeling and simulation approaches offer the possibility to design new materials at the atomic level with tailored bulk properties and to do so more quickly and cost-effectively than with conventional experimental techniques alone,” observes Jason D. King, MatOx’s CEO. “We are delighted to be collaborating with Beckers in the application of these methods to the development of new ‘smart’ coatings products. We look forward to working with both Beckers and our partners at Helsinki University of Technology in making these projects a success.”

“Becker Industrial Coatings is interested in the application of science to the development of new coating technologies and welcomes the opportunity to get involved in a project that promises to apply high-end computational science to the problems faced by the paint chemist on a day to day basis,” said Chris Lowe, Long Term Development Group Manager.

### About Beckers:

Becker Industrial Coatings (BIC) is the European market leader in Coil Coatings, which are used to precoat steel and aluminium for subsequent forming, without damage to the finish. BIC is also a major supplier of Special Coatings – specialised industrial finishing systems for metals and plastics. It has over 15 manufacturing sites world wide covering all the major industrial areas. In 2008 Becker Industrial Coatings achieved net sales of 4.4Billion SEK.

### About MatOx Ltd:

MatOx Ltd is a materials discovery company based in Oxford, UK. We access advances in materials science through in-licensing from world-leading academic groups or direct funding of research programs with these partners. Based on this early-stage technology, we develop breakthrough new products, which we commercialize primarily through licensing arrangements with leading industrial entities. MatOx Oy is the wholly owned Finnish subsidiary of MatOx Ltd and is the executing party for R&D collaborations that involve significant contributions from MatOx’ Finnish academic partners.

### About Helsinki University of Technology/COMP:

COMP carries out a wide spectrum of research in materials theory and multiscale modeling, with applications ranging from novel coatings and nanoscale materials and quantum devices to biologically relevant problems. It employs more than 60 people in seven research groups. COMP has access to world-class computational facilities and edge-cutting software.