

**Press Release, December 02, 2010**

## **Johnson Controls signs purchase agreement to acquire C. Rob Hammerstein Group**

*C. Rob. Hammerstein Group intended to be vital part of Johnson Controls Automotive Experience's recently carved out seating components group*

**Solingen, Germany 1 December 2010** - Johnson Controls, a global leader in automotive seating systems, interior components and electronics, signed a purchase agreement for the acquisition of the C. Rob. Hammerstein Group (CRH), whose headquarters and main development facilities are based in Solingen, Germany. CRH is a highly respected global supplier of seat metal structures and mechanisms on an outstanding quality-level.

“This transaction marks a very significant step in our history. We have carefully analyzed Johnson Controls’ proposal and concluded that it clearly represents a unique opportunity for the CRH Group to best meet the future challenges of our industry, such as fast growing globalization and platform standardization, said Robert Houston, CEO of CRH. “Together both companies intend to establish a best in class metal-organization within the global seating components business, which will be a milestone for CRH and will honor our family owned company.”

CRH’s expertise includes the complete product development process, from design, engineering and manufacturing of the individual components to the integration of the complete seat system. Its products and capabilities include front seat structures, seat tracks and height adjusters, multi-way adjusters, power gear boxes, as well as special applications such as steering

column adjusters. Approximately 3.600 employees in nine countries are associated with the business.

“The acquisition of CRH will substantially enhance our seat product offering as it will advance our strong market position through global manufacturing capabilities, innovation and further optimization of our portfolio,” said Beda Bolzenius, Vice President, Johnson Controls and President, Automotive Experience. “We will maintain the CRH brand name as it is synonymous with high quality metal structures components and mechanisms.”

For Johnson Controls the combined footprint of the companies creates new opportunities for global growth, particularly in China, Mexico, Turkey, Hungary, and Romania. Furthermore the acquisition enables vertical integration in the premium vehicle segments where CRH has a proven track record.

“Through the combination of CRH’s advanced technology capabilities, such as its highly precise gearbox units, with Johnson Controls’ electronic body controller knowledge enables us to provide entirely new solutions in all automotive mechatronic applications,” said Bolzenius.

CRH’s sustainable products and technologies include slim seat structures which provide lightweight solutions. When combined with Johnson Controls’ operational expertise, these solutions will help reduce component weight for future vehicles.

The CRH business will be integrated into the Johnson Controls metal and mechanisms unit that is part of its recently carved out seating components group within the Automotive Experience business. The metal and mechanisms unit as well as the entire seating components group are led by Johannes Roters, Group Vice President and General Manager Seating Com-

ponents. It also includes dedicated units for trim and fabrics, as well as foam.

Completion of the acquisition, which is subject to customary regulatory approvals, is expected by the end of January 2011.

**C. ROB. HAMMERSTEIN Group (CRH)** headquartered in Solingen, Germany, is the specialist for the development and production of high-quality complete seat structures, seat adjustment systems, steering column adjusters and variable interior concepts. Well known car manufacturers and System-suppliers count on CRH products. The company employs approx. 3.000 people across 13 locations in Germany, USA, Mexico, Hungary, Romania, South Africa, Japan and China.

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