NOTE TO EDITORS: A HIGH-RESOLUTION PHOTOGRAPH IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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Unilever margarine tub produced using MuCell® process from Trexel wins 2008 Deutscher Verpackungs Preis (German Packaging Award) and a WorldStar Packaging Award

Woburn, Mass., December 15, 2008 – The Unilever 500 gram Rama margarine tub has been awarded the 2008 Deutscher Verpackungs Preis (German Packaging Award) and a WorldStar Packaging Award. The innovative tub design was developed by Veriplast Solutions and uses Veriplast's super-light injection molding technology (SLIM), which combines the MuCell® microcellular foaming process along with Veriplast's Extra Slim Label, an innovative down-gauged in-mold label.

"The success of the SLIM program is a credit to Veriplast and Unilever who were able to understand the new design paradigms for thin wall molding that become available through the MuCell Process and to put them into effect," said David Bernstein, President of Trexel.

SLIM® technology utilizes the MuCell® process, which involves the use of precisely metered quantities of atmospheric gases (nitrogen or carbon dioxide) in the injection molding process to create millions of nearly invisible microcells in the end product. The gas nucleates cells during injection and allows the thin wall cavities to be filled with reduced pressure and with reduced clamp tonnage. This permits additional thin walling. The microcells then replace their equivalent volume of plastic, resulting in a cumulative reduction of up to 10% in packaging weight without any perceptible difference in the final tub quality. Veriplast combines this with its own Extra Slim Label technology, which is significantly thinner than the market standard and provides an additional environmental benefit by reducing the CO2 footprint by 30% compared to standard labels.

Picture 1. The Rama 500 g. margarine tub is produced using Veriplast's SLIM (Super Light Injection Molding) process, which relies on the MuCell® microcellular foaming process from Trexel for weight reduction without loss of quality in the molded tub.

SLIM® technology provides outstanding benefits in terms of packaging weight reduction and carbon footprint reduction. As a result, SLIM customers in Europe can save additional money by reducing Eco Tax costs. For example, in Germany for a standard 15 gram tub, the 10% weight reduction obtained thanks to SLIM is a € 200,000 saving in Eco Tax for every 100 million tubs.

More About MuCell® Technology

The MuCell® Microcellular Foam technology is a complete process and equipment technology that enables the production of extremely high quality plastic parts. MuCell® Technology involves the use of precisely metered quantities of atmospheric gases (nitrogen or carbon dioxide) in any of the three most common thermoplastic conversion processes (injection molding, extrusion, blow molding) to create millions of nearly invisible microcells in the end product. The creation of these microcellular structures brings a wide array of benefits including reduced weight, reduced material usage and reduced production costs.

The MuCell® process is primarily employed in the injection molding process to produce lower cost precision parts with a consistently high quality and exceptional dimensional stability, where foaming has not historically been deployed.

Microcellular foaming technology was originally conceptualized and invented at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and in 1995 Trexel was granted an exclusive worldwide license for the further development and commercialization of the technology. Today there are hundreds of MuCell® parts, both molded and extruded in commercial production today around the world and in excess of 300 machines in operation. Examples of MuCell® products include electrical components, electronics connectors, internal business equipment and printer components, a variety of packaging applications and a broad array of automotive products including HVAC components.

About Trexel

Trexel is the exclusive developer of the MuCell® microcellular foam technology and has an extensive portfolio of patents in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan, Korea, and Asia. Trexel's primary business is the supply of MuCell® Systems for the production of foamed injection molded and extruded articles. It also provides world-class engineering support, training and other services, and the equipment and components integral to the MuCell® process. In support of these activities, Trexel operates a foamed plastics development laboratory in its Woburn, MA facility, and has established a global network of exclusive manufacturing relationships to produce the company's proprietary precision engineering equipment. MuCell® support centers are located in the U.S., Germany, Japan, Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Australia and Korea. For more information, please visit Trexel at www.trexel.com.

About Veriplast

Veriplast Solutions operates in rigid packaging (extrusion, thermoforming, injection and in-mold labelling), in food service (disposable packaging, vending and manual cups, take away bowls and trays) and flexible packaging (primary, secondary and tertiary extruded films, laminated FFS reels, pouches and pre-made bags), with catalogue and bespoke products. Veriplast Solutions' objective is the development of innovative packaging solutions particularly focusing on consumer convenience, food safety and carbon footprint optimization. The Group has developed into a large and experienced European packaging Specialist with a turnover of approx. 350 million euros. It employs about 1600 people in Germany, France, Netherlands, UK, Spain, Bulgaria and Poland.