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NEWS ALERT!!!

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Cortec developing New European Biodegradable Films Plant!!!

CORTEC Corporation is proud to announce plans for the development of EcoCortec. This state-of-the-art factory will be strategically located in Beli Manastir, one of the fastest growing communities in Croatia. Located in heart of Europe, EcoCortec will be one of the first facilities dedicated exclusively to the extrusion of biodegradable and compostable films for agricultural, consumer and industrial customers.

EcoCortec will be located on a 10,000 m² (108,000 ft²) customs-free zone with existing infrastructure allowing for convenient shipments via air, ground, rail and waterways, including ocean-bound containers. The "Croatian Free Zone" is intended to promote the development of sustainable manufacturing and employment within the region.



The unique status of the Croatian Free Zone allows a higher investment in both the equipment and personnel than would otherwise be possible. Cortec has purchased several existing facilities over the past several years, but EcoCortec will be the first "greenfield" facility since Cortec built its headquarters (Minnesota, USA) over a decade ago.

"Cortec is extremely excited at the potential to become not only a global leader in sustainable manufacturing, but also to have a major impact on the local community in Beli Manastir. While thinking globally is critical to our success, in order to be truly sustainable, you must act locally and be good neighbors" states Boris Miksic, CEO.

When operational, EcoCortec will employ approximately 50 engineers, technicians, laboratory and transport employees from the local area. With four silos, state-of-the-art extrusion lines and overall capacity of 5,000 tons (10 million lbs) of finished films, EcoCortec is poised to be the leading manufacturer of biodegradable/compostable films in Europe shortly after opening its doors.



The first phase of construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2006, with an estimated completion date within 12 to 18 months of the ground-breaking. By utilizing the best available technologies in the building's design, equipment and manufacturing processes, the environmental footprint of this new facility will be minimized.

EcoCortec is the latest investment by Cortec Corporation, a pioneer in environmentally preferable products, manufacturing techniques and technologies used by thousands of customers worldwide.

