

P2i acquires Surface Innovations

Abingdon (United Kingdom), 13 July, 2010 – P2i Limited, the world leader in liquid repellent nano-coating technology, has acquired 100 per cent of the share capital of Surface Innovations Ltd, a UK-based technology company with a wide range of functional nano-coating patents. The terms of the deal were not disclosed.

The acquisition expands P2i's product portfolio beyond its market-leading technologies for liquid repellency, adding "functional" coating technologies with applications including anti-bacterial resistance, liquid attracting (super wettable), and many others.

Surface Innovations is a research and development company with 17 patent families that focus on functional nano-coatings obtained using plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition. It was founded in 2001 by Professor Jas Pal Badyal as a spin-out of Durham University. Professor Badyal will sit on a new Technical Advisory Panel to provide ongoing scientific advice to P2i, as well as developing new patents and applications for the company.

The acquisition of Surface Innovations comes as P2i gains commercial traction in all five of its core markets: Electronics, Lifestyle, Energy and Filtration, Life Sciences and Military/Institutional. In the past year, P2i has tripled its employees to 75 and scaled up its operations, which are now located across Europe, North America and Asia (China, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia).

Carl Francis, Chief Executive of P2i, said:

"P2i has excelled in commercializing its liquid repellent nano-coating technology, proving beyond doubt that plasma processing is a viable, cost effective industrial process. As our customer base expands and their requirements broaden, the technology we have acquired will enable us to commercialize new functional coatings that further enhance the performance of products ranging from consumer electronics to military clothing.

Dr Stephen Coulson, P2i's Chief Technical Officer, said:

"Bringing Surface Innovations into P2i accelerates our expansion into functional nano-coatings beyond liquid repellency. Its clear lead in areas such as anti-microbial, super wettable fabrics and protein resistance gives us a great springboard into the world of functional nano-coatings and allows us to respond timely to numerous customer requirements.

Prof Jas Pal Badyal, previously majority shareholder of Surface Innovations, commented:

“I’m delighted that my research and patents are now with P2i, which has a proven capability in commercializing plasma technology. It is the perfect vehicle to deploy these various technologies into global markets. We have highly complementary skills sets and this acquisition will see many exciting new inventions launched into P2i’s primary markets.”

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About P2i

[P2i](#) is the world leader in liquid repellent nano-coating technology. We make good products great by applying innovative science. Our revolutionary technology enables our customers to improve the performance of their products and protect them from the effects of water and all other liquids. This builds value by commanding premium prices and/or reducing costs.

P2i Ltd was established in 2004 to commercialize liquid-repellent treatments developed by the UK’s Ministry of Defence. Now on a commercial scale, P2i’s patented process has been successfully applied to a wide range of products in a [wide range of markets](#) including lifestyle, electronics, military and institutional, life sciences, energy and filtration.

In consumer sectors, the presence of P2i’s technology is indicated either by [ion-mask™](#), its brand for footwear, outdoor clothing and accessories, or [Aridion™](#), its brand for electronics.

About Surface Innovations

Surface Innovations designs and supplies functional nano-coatings for the tailoring of surface properties of commercial products. The company was a spin-out of Durham University in 2001, and owns 17 patent families that include liquid repellency, hydrophilicity, antibacterial, non-fouling coatings, and biolinkers. Applications for the company’s technologies include water and oil repellency on a variety of consumer goods and bio-tech devices, durable wettable coatings for microfluidic devices and sanitary products, reactive coatings for high-density biochips and filtration products, and passivation and conducting layers within organic microelectronic devices. Based in the Northeast of England, the company maintains close links with the University of Durham, and incorporates Professor Jas Pal Badyal’s research group.