

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Global Equity Partners acquired the Austrian ASTA Group**

**(Vienna, 2011/12/27) Global Equity Partners (GEP) intends the acquisition of ASTA Holdings GmbH. The almost 200 years old Austrian industrial concern is one of the leading producer of winding wire made up of copper in the field of energy production and transmission. The Closing of the transaction is anticipated for the first quarter of 2012 upon presentation of the antitrust approval.**

Seller is the Malaysian Metrod-Group. A corresponding sales contract was signed on December 23, 2011. Silence was agreed upon the purchase price.

The ASTA Group is a global leading company in the field of energy production and energy transmission and provides the most important producers of transformers and generators with winding material made up of copper, especially CTC's, insulated wires and roebel bars. With approximately 500 employees worldwide and production locations in Austria, China and India, the ASTA Group achieved a turnover of about MEUR 160 in 2010. ASTA's headquarter and biggest factory is located in Oed, Austria.

ASTA was founded as "Metallfarbik Oed" in 1814 and was part of the VA-Tech concern before being sold to the Metrod Group. With Global Equity Partners ASTA receives an Austrian owner again who, after closing, will actively support the company at all locations in its long-term growth strategy.

#### **About GEP**

Global Equity Partners is a European Investment house, which has been managing holding companies since 1998. Institutional investors from Austria, Germany and Switzerland have allocated more than EUR 500 mio. of equity capital up to now. The main areas of activities of Global Equity Partners are Growth Capital & High Tech, Industry & mid-size companies and Real estate, as well as long-term industry holdings.  
[www.gep.at](http://www.gep.at)

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