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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **Takeover of Ganahl AG**

#### **The German HEINZ-Glas and Plastics Groups acquires the majority shares of Ganahl AG in Volketswil/Switzerland**

Although the main business of the HEINZ Group clearly is perfume and cosmetic glass Heinz has now strengthened its position for the Heinz Plastics sector (founded in 1955) by the acquisition of the Ganahl AG, the Swiss specialist for injection blow moulding of plastic containers.

Ganahl AG is the technologically leading injection blow moulding specialist and well-known for small plastic containers (3ml to 250ml) – quite big in this business! Over 300 million containers were manufactured in 2007 in Volketswil and in 2008 a double-digit growth is expected. In the plastic division of the Heinz Group over 1 billion units are produced. Besides, Ganahl also offers special know-how for high-quality injection-blow-moulding together with the tools engineered and built by Ganahl. And highly productive injection-blow-moulding machines have been and are still built by the company (for own use).

HEINZ Plastics GmbH took over the majority shares on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. In this way the field of activities for the Ganahl AG becomes much wider, its growth possibilities are increasing and better financial security is provided.

And with HEINZ Mr. Ivor Ganahl can secure his life work! He will stay with the company for another year as the CEO and afterwards as advisor. Mr. Ganahl Jun. will still be with the company as its plant manager and responsible for development as well as a minority shareholder and an administrative board member.

The new connection between Ganahl AG and the HEINZ Group means for the Ganahl and Heinz customers that the offered product range is now wider and much more manifold, coming from five locations in Germany, Switzerland, Poland and China. Ganahl remains the best place for the production of mascara containers and is now the Injection Blow Moulding Centre of Excellence of the Heinz Group.

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