

GRACE acquires GROM ANALYTIK + HPLC GmbH in GERMANY

and therefore

strengthens EUROPEAN presence in separations

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R. Grace & Co. (NYSE: GRA), announced today that its German subsidiary, Grace Holding GmbH, has acquired GROM ANALYTIK + HPLC GmbH, located in Rottenburg-Haltingen. Grom specializes in HPLC (High Performance Liquid Chromatography) column packing technology and services designed for high performance small molecule applications. The business will be integrated into Grace's Davison Specialty Materials unit. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Founded in 1983, Grom is a privately-held specialty chromatography business based in Germany. The company manufactures columns and provides packing and applications services for analytical and preparative chromatography.

Grace, a global leader in silica material technology, has been building its separations business through a strategy of internal growth and acquisitions. The company currently manufactures VYDAC® columns and media for analytical, preparative, and process applications and DAVISIL® chromatographic media. The company recently introduced the DENALI™ line of columns and media for small-molecule separations. Recent acquisitions include MODcol Corporation, experts in preparative column packing technology, and the Jones Chromatography HPLC line.

"This acquisition expands our column manufacturing capabilities, especially for the important small-molecule segment of HPLC," said Greg Poling, President, Grace Davison Specialty Materials. "Grom's established expertise in small-molecule separations, service capabilities and advanced small bore and capillary column packing technology, combined with our silica material science, positions us for continued growth in materials for pharmaceutical applications. In addition, the acquisition provides a strong base for our separations business in Europe and enhances our technical service capabilities in that region," Poling explained. "We're pleased to have the Grom organization join our business."

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Grace is a leading global supplier of catalysts and silica products, specialty construction chemicals, building materials, and sealants and coatings. With annual sales of approximately \$2.0 billion, Grace has over 6,000 employees and operations in nearly 40 countries. For more information, visit Grace's Web site at www.grace.com. For more information on Grace's separations business, visit www.gracevydac.com

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