

Press Release

IP Bewertungs AG (IPB) shows product novelty at Tube 2008

From idea to product: IPB presents prototype of longitudinal force-locked connection

- **Innovative pipe joint**
- **Patent commercialisation: 100 Million Euros for new ideas**

Hamburg, 02/05/2008: So far complex welding is an integral part of pipe connections. IP Bewertungs AG (IPB) presents at the international tube and pipe trade fair, Tube 2008, in Dusseldorf from 31 March until 4 April 2008 an innovation that solves this problem: **Longitudinal force-locked connection for ferroconcrete or glass fibre-reinforced pipes***. In Hall 6, booth C31 the system will be demonstrated by IPB experts on the basis of a prototype.

The pipe connection presented is based on an anchored steel guidance ring. It can be used to connect two pipes to each other without a need for additional welding work. In particular, with regard to longitudinal force-locked advance pipes such as pressure pipes, both the construction and the reconstruction of ferroconcrete or glass fibre-reinforced pipes can be realised much more efficiently. Another advantage compared to cast iron pipes with standard connections or ordinary welded steel pipes is the significant longer durability. This allows the periodical reconstruction efforts to be reduced to a fraction of its current cost.

The longitudinal force-locked connection for ferroconcrete or glass fibre-reinforced pipes is a patent portfolio from the patent stock of ZYRUS Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH & Co. Patente I KG, a patent value fund, that is advised by IP Bewertungs AG (IPB) in the fields of patent selection, patent development and patent commercialisation. "Meanwhile, the capital market shows large interest in IP rights", says Stephan Lipfert, director IP Management at IPB. The Hamburg based company reacted as one of the first on this development and has been active as service provider for patent value funds since 2005. Patent value funds are issued with the aim of generating the maximum rate of return from knowledge and know how for both the patent owner and the investor.

100 Million Euros for innovative ideas

Know how and an immense expense is needed to convert an idea to a market mature product. This means for the inventor to collect or save money to build prototypes, implement marketing strategies or invest into further research and development. Patent value funds provide this investment capital, and thus, create an important and vital component for the commercialisation of patents. "After the first two patent value funds with a patent stock in

* The patents are owned by ZYRUS Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH & Co. Patente I KG

a double-digit-million amount, at present, we are advising the third fund with a volume above 100 Million Euros”, announces Lipfert.

About IP Bewertungs AG (IPB)

IP Bewertungs AG (IPB) is one of Europe’s leading consulting firms for intellectual property services such as patent evaluation, patent monetisation and patent management. Being an independent member of an international network IPB has access to worldwide resources for intellectual property rights, finance services as well as the auditing and tax sector. The company based in Hamburg gives its clients advice in all questions concerning the management of patent portfolios with the objective of enhancing the return of their most important resource "knowledge". Most of the about 55 IPB employees work in the field of patent management and consultation regarding patent value funds.

For more information please visit: www.IPB-AG.com

About ZYRUS Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH & Co. Patente I KG

The purpose of business of Zyrus Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH & Co. Patente I KG is the purchase respectively the exclusive licensing, the refinement as well as the monetization of industrial property rights, especially in view of patents and patent portfolios.

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