

LINOS AG applies for a change to the General Standard at Deutsche Börse

Göttingen, October 30, 2006. The Executive Board of LINOS AG (ISIN DE0005256507) decided today to apply to Frankfurt Stock Exchange for a change from the Prime Standard to the General Standard. The main reason for this decision is because the number of investors has decreased severely, since Optco Akquisitionen GmbH has taken over more than 75 per cent of the outstanding LINOS shares. In addition to this, the LINOS share is likely to be of considerably less interest than in the past to institutional investors outside Germany in particular in future due to the very small free float. The Executive Board therefore considers that the substantial costs incurred as a result of the listing in the Prime Standard are no longer justified in view of the benefits that can be obtained. The commitment to submit reports in English requires a particularly large amount of effort. There is no obligation to do this in the General Standard, the primary aim of which is to appeal to German investors.

A profile of LINOS AG

LINOS AG is a manufacturer of sophisticated optical systems that operates all over the world. In line with the corporate principle "Photonics for Innovation", LINOS is a development partner and supplier for customers in such growth markets as lasers, optical metrology, medicine, biotechnology and semiconductors. The company was established as a management buy-out in 1996, has acquired and integrated various photonics companies – most recently Rodenstock Präzisionsoptik in Munich – since then and is listed in the Prime Standard index at Frankfurt Stock Exchange. LINOS AG focusses on the three strategic business divisions Information Technology & Communications, Health Care & Life Sciences and Industrial Manufacturing. 750 highly qualified staff work for LINOS AG in the Group, which produces at three locations in Germany as well as at a plant in Poland. LINOS has sales companies of its own in the USA, Great Britain and France, which are important export countries. www.linos.de

Information about the takeover bid

On August 24, 2006, Qioptiq Group submitted a takeover bid for all the outstanding LINOS shares via its investee company Optco Akquisitionen GmbH; the acceptance period ended on October 6, 2006. The acceptance level was 77.8 per cent on October 11, 2006. www.optco-uebernahmeangebot.de

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