



# communiqué de presse **press** release

N° 12-06

## **Saft takes a controlling stake of a battery company in India**

**Paris, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2006.** Saft announces that it has taken control of AMCO Power Systems Ltd (APSL), based in Bangalore, the nickel-cadmium battery business of Amalgamations private Ltd. The entity will be called AMCO-Saft India Ltd.

Saft is thus confirming its long-term commitment to the Indian market by reinforcing its relationship with its long-term partner in this high growth region.

The company AMCO-Saft India Ltd is one of the major manufacturers of nickel-cadmium industrial batteries in India, and today manufactures batteries mainly for industrial, standby and rail applications for the Indian market, using certain key components supplied by Saft.

The Saft Group will bring its expertise in other technologies, with the aim of addressing additional markets, such as the military battery market in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal, and of better serving the needs of local customers across the Indian sub-continent.

John Searle, President and CEO of Saft said : *"This joint-venture is an opportunity to expand our business in the fast-growing Indian market. We are strengthening our long-term partnership with APSL and intend to develop the facility in Bangalore to take advantage of the strong demand for high-technology batteries in the industrial and military markets in India.*

### *About Saft*

*Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world specialist in the design and manufacture of high-tech batteries for industry. Saft batteries are used in high performance applications such as industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, space and defence. Saft is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel-cadmium batteries for industrial applications and of primary lithium batteries for a wide range of end markets. The group is also the European leader for specialised advanced technologies for the defence and space industries. With approximately 3,800 employees worldwide, Saft is present in 17 countries. Its 16 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network enable the group to serve its customers worldwide."*

*For more information, visit Saft at [www.saftbatteries.com](http://www.saftbatteries.com)*

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