



## Press Release

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### **New facility set up to apply new, unique, hard, wear resistant coating for engineered parts**

A brand new development and production facility has been set up in the UK, which offers customers a rapid coating service for the application of an innovative carbon coating to a wide range of engineered components used in extreme, arduous environments.

After securing £570,000 of investment funding in November 2008, Diamond Hard Surfaces Ltd has just opened a new, 1,500 square ft development and manufacturing facility at Caswell Science & Technology Park in Towcester, Northamptonshire. Diamond Hard Surfaces is the first high technology company to occupy a position on this prestigious business park.



The company's patented coating, Adamant<sup>®</sup>, is a thick, hard, amorphous, diamond-like carbon coating that possesses a unique combination of surface properties. The coating is as smooth and slick as PTFE, but with excellent hardness (3,500-4,000HV) and the toughness of carbon-fibre. These unique properties provide the coating with technical advantages over other currently available materials, particularly in extreme, harsh



operating environments, where the life of engineered components, such as mechanical seals or bearings, is critical.

Adamant<sup>®</sup> is particularly beneficial in applications where Engineers are pushing the boundaries of load, chemical resistance, temperature and abrasion. Where performance limits have already been reached using traditional materials such as hardened steel, Adamant<sup>®</sup> can extend the life of components, even in the most arduous of applications.

The coating represents a genuine technological step-change in the coating of engineered components for extreme performance. The material, which has excellent load bearing characteristics and wear resistance, derives its uniqueness from Diamond Hard Surfaces' patented manufacturing process. Not only is the coating applied to components at unusually low temperatures (less than 100 deg C), which means it can be applied to a diverse range of substrates, but it is also environmentally-friendly, with no pre- or post-treatment required.

Chris Walker, CEO of Diamond Hard Surfaces comments: "We are installing state of the art equipment at our new facility in Towcester, which will enable us to provide a coating service for advanced engineering applications in a diverse range of industry sectors, including oil and gas, motorsport, aerospace and medical. With its low friction and high load bearing characteristics, and excellent abrasive resistance, many companies are working with us in order to improve the efficiency of their high performance applications."

Adamant<sup>®</sup> is currently being used in a variety of applications, including mechanical seal faces for the oil and gas sector. The company is also working with a variety of blue chip companies in order to enhance applications in other extreme, arduous environments.

The company's principal investors are Oxford Technology Management (OT4) and E6 Ventures Sarl, sector-specialist investors affiliated to Element 6, a \$500 million manufacturer of supermaterials.



For more information on Diamond Hard Surfaces, please email:

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**Note to Editors:**

**About Diamond Hard Surfaces Ltd**

Established in 2005, Diamond Hard Surfaces Ltd was initially founded by Chief Technology Officer, Sergey Aleksandrov, with the backing of Oxford Technologies Management Venture Capital Trusts, A VCT fund that specialises in start-ups and early stage technologies. Since 2005, the technology has been protected by patent and the manufacturing process has been further developed in the company's laboratory facilities.

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