

Matthews

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PRESS RELEASE

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MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION ACQUIRES REPROSERVICE EURODIGITAL GmbH MÜNCHEN

PITTSBURGH, PA, AUGUST 12, 2003 – Matthews International Corporation (NASDAQ NMS: MATW) today announced the purchase by Matthews of Reproservice Eurodigital GmbH München (Reproservice Munich), a German graphics and flexographic printing plate manufacturer located in Munich, Germany. The combination of Matthews and Reproservice Munich is an important part of the Matthews strategy to increase its European presence in the graphics industry. Terms of the purchase were not disclosed.

Reproservice Munich, a family-owned business with annual sales of approximately \$6 million (U.S. dollars), was established in 1983 by Dieter Jacob. The company's products and services include pre-press packaging; digital and analog flexographic printing plates; design, art work, lithography and color separation. Reproservice Munich has a reputation for producing high quality products for the market in Southern Germany.

Matthews International Corporation, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is a designer, manufacturer and marketer principally of memorialization products and caskets for the cemetery and funeral home industries, and custom made products which are used to identify people, place, products and events. The Company's products include cast bronze memorials and other memorialization products; caskets; bronze and aluminum architectural products; cremators and cremation-related products; mausoleums, printing plates, pre-press services, and imaging systems for the corrugated and flexible packaging industries; and marking equipment and consumables for identifying various consumer and industrial products and containers.

Any forward-looking statements contained in this release are included pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause the Company's actual results in future periods to be materially different from management's expectations. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, no assurance can be given that such expectations will prove correct. Factors that could cause the Company's results to differ materially from the results discussed in such forward-looking statements principally include economic, competitive, and technological factors beyond the Company's control.