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## **Saft launches Uptimax – a new low maintenance Ni-Cd battery for high temperature stationary power backup applications**

- *Uptimax is ideally suited for stationary power backup applications in the electricity, oil and gas and utility industries*
- *Specially adapted design ensures long life and low maintenance requirements even when operating at +40°C*

**Beijing, 5 November, 2008** – At EP China 2008 Saft is launching its new Uptimax range of low maintenance nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) batteries designed to provide the ideal industrial power backup solution for the electricity, oil and gas and utility industries. Uptimax ensures maximum reliability, long-life and optimum TCO (total cost of ownership) even when operating for long periods at high ambient temperatures. Also on display will be Saft's SBLE range of pocket-plate block batteries developed specifically for backup power and bulk energy storage applications that require long discharge times (typically 3 to 100 hours), together with the Sunica.plus range of batteries optimized to deliver superior performance and reliability in renewable energy installations.

Saft has been very active in the Chinese market for many years and has a sales office based in Shanghai. Since April 2006 Saft has manufactured batteries in China at its factory in Zhuhai, which recently produced its 10 millionth primary lithium cell.

### **Uptimax – robust construction**

Uptimax features the same robust construction and unique electrochemistry that has earned Saft pocket-plate nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) batteries a well deserved reputation for total reliability and long-life. However, Uptimax takes this capability to the next level by providing outstanding performance and an extended service-life – even when operating in temperatures as high as +40°C.

### **Optimized for high temperature applications**

Uptimax is optimized for high temperature applications, and at +40°C offers an operational life of at least 12 years. Furthermore, the battery's excellent chargeability ensures that, even at this temperature, a single level low voltage charge for 15 hours will enable it to deliver more than 90 per cent of its capacity. Also, in common with all Saft Ni-Cd batteries, Uptimax's behaviour is entirely predictable. So unlike VRLA (valve regulated lead acid) batteries often found in stationary applications, it will never suffer from 'sudden death'.

### **High technology low maintenance design**

A key feature of Uptimax is its high technology, low maintenance, design. This ensures very efficient gas recombination, with very low gas emission, well in excess of the requirements of IEC 62259. In normal conditions, an Uptimax battery will only need one top-up with water in its whole service-life.

### **Wide range of capacities**

Uptimax batteries are available in a wide range of capacities, with a choice of L type plates from 15 to 1700 Ah for relatively long discharge periods (3 to 100 hours), or M type plates from 8 to 1330 Ah to sustain loads from between 30 minutes to 3 hours.

### **Easy to transport, install and operate**

Uptimax is designed for ease of transportation, installation and operation. Uptimax cells are assembled in blocks of up to 6 cells, and are delivered ready-filled with electrolyte and charged. In normal conditions, an Uptimax battery can be stored for up to 2 years.

### **High quality standards**

Uptimax batteries are manufactured to the highest quality standards in Saft's production facilities qualified to ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. They also come with the total service, technical and training backup provided by Saft's worldwide sales and after-sales support network.

### **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 4,000 employees worldwide, Saft is present in 18 countries. Its 15 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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