



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Fort Dearborn Company Acquires The Sherwin-Williams Company Graphic Arts Printing Facility in Fountain Inn, South Carolina**

*April 2, 2002 (Niles, IL)* Fort Dearborn Company announced it has acquired the Sherwin-Williams Graphic Arts Business Unit. Graphic Arts, located in Fountain Inn, South Carolina, is a dedicated printing operation that supplies paint labels to Sherwin-Williams manufacturing plants and distribution centers.

Fort Dearborn's history of strategic acquisitions and investment in new technologies has positioned the company as a leader in packaging quality and innovation. "This acquisition solidifies our commitment to support the growth of the Paint & Coatings market," said Rich Adler Jr, President and Chief Quality Officer of Fort Dearborn Company, "through increased production capacity, manufacturing efficiencies and material sourcing options. We are further advantaged by an experienced, technical workforce in place, skilled in the production of labels for the Paint & Coatings industry."

The newly acquired 90,000 sq ft printing facility in Fountain Inn will be managed under the Fort Dearborn Paint & Coatings umbrella, which currently includes an operation in Lake Forest, Illinois.

"We will adopt best practices from each operation throughout the integration process, and emerge as a stronger, cohesive business unit", commented Tom Ragen, President & Chief Quality Officer – FDC Paint & Coatings. Fountain Inn will incorporate many of the value added services now offered by Fort Dearborn Company, such as superior color management, R&D, and field application support. "Beyond existing label production, this transaction affords us the opportunity to leverage our HiColour technology, flexible packaging, graphic reproduction, and asset management capabilities to secure new revenues."

"We welcome Fort Dearborn and are very pleased that they are committed to being actively involved in the local community," said Wayne Davis, Mayor for the City of Fountain Inn.

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*Fort Dearborn Company is a leading provider of packaging solutions for the food, beverage, retail and paint & coatings markets. The company has 10 locations in North America, the United Kingdom and Europe, employing over 1000 associates worldwide.*

*The Greenville Area Development Corporation is a non-profit organization established by Greenville County Council to promote and enhance the economic growth and development of Greenville County.*