



## **FOX PAINE COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF MAJORITY STAKE IN VCST INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS**

**San Francisco, CA – October 5, 2004** – Fox Paine & Company, LLC, the San Francisco-based private equity firm, today announced that an entity formed by Fox Paine Capital Fund II International, L.P. has completed the acquisition of a majority stake in VCST Industrial Products N.V., a Belgian-based automotive component company. As previously announced, Navas Investments B.V., an investment firm controlled by Jeroen van den Nieuwenhuyzen, retains a minority interest in the company and VCST's current management is expected to take a minority stake in the company. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Carlo Soors, Managing Director of VCST, said "We are excited to begin our partnership with Fox Paine who, together with VCST's management team and employees, will help VCST realize its full potential by building upon our company's excellent design and manufacturing capabilities, and our strong customer relationships. We are confident that Fox Paine's valued strategic insights, expertise and capital will help position VCST for continued success as a supplier of highly engineered components to the automotive industry."

Dexter Paine, President of Fox Paine said, "We are pleased with the successful and rapid completion of this important transaction. We look forward to working closely with VCST's world class management team and employees to position this dynamic company for continued growth and development."

### **About VCST Industrial Products N.V.** (<http://www.vcst.be/>)

VCST Industrial Products has been a well-known supplier to the automotive industry for more than 25 years. Headquartered in Sint Truiden, Belgium, VCST develops and produces highly engineered components for passenger cars and commercial vehicles, including engine and transmission gears, transmission shafts and aluminum valve blocks. The Company is also a leading provider of specialized heat and surface treatment services to the automotive and truck manufacturing industries. VCST operates five manufacturing facilities in three locations: Sint Truiden, Belgium, Reichenbach, Germany and Detroit, Michigan.

### **About Fox Paine & Company, LLC** (<http://www.foxpaine.com/>)

Fox Paine & Company, LLC manages over \$1.5 billion of investment funds providing equity capital for management buyouts, new ventures, going-private transactions, and company expansion and growth programs. Fox Paine was founded in 1997 by Saul A. Fox, a former general partner of Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co., and W. Dexter Paine, III, a former general partner of Kohlberg & Co. More information about Fox Paine can be found at <http://www.foxpaine.com>.

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