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SpaceForm and Welding Solutions merge to market DRW™ and Super-MIG™ welding technologies

DETROIT, MICHIGAN – Two of Michigan’s innovative welding companies, SpaceForm, Inc., Detroit, and Welding Solutions, Inc., Madison Heights, have merged to form a new company called SpaceForm Welding Solutions, Inc., to be the exclusive marketers of the Deformation Resistance Welding and Super-MIG welding technologies in the NAFTA market.

Under the new company, SpaceForm will contribute its advanced Deformation Resistance Welding technology (DRW) and Welding Solutions will contribute its innovative Super-MIG robotic welding technology under a license it holds from PLT, an Israeli-based welding company.

Alain Piette, President of SpaceForm will serve as the President of SpaceForm Welding Solutions, Inc., while Earl Kansier, Chief Executive Officer of Weldmation will be the Chairman of the new company. According to Alain Piette “the merger allows for SpaceForm Welding Solutions to be a leading provider of emerging welding technologies and will supply the market place with services ranging from R&D services to complete turnkey production systems”.

Earl Kansier said, “this merger further confirms Weldmation’s commitment to provide advanced solutions and systems by partnering with companies that are on the leading edge of weld technology research and implementation”

SpaceForm is a Delphi Technologies, Inc. (DTI) spin-out company, located in TechTown, the Wayne State University business incubator. The company has been funded by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Automation Alley and DTI. It has also received extensive support from the Michigan Research Institute and NASA. It was established to commercialize the patented Deformation Resistance Welding (DRW) process developed by Delphi Corporation. DRW forms a near instantaneous, full strength, leak-tight weld by heating metal surfaces, followed by rapid engineered compression of the joint.

James A. Richter, president of the Michigan Research Institute said, "The merger of these companies is a

key step forward for the DRW welding technology to go out on a wide-spread commercial basis because the company can provide the application developments necessary for potential customers to adopt this welding technology."

"We are pleased that these innovative companies are joining forces in a move that will ensure SpaceForm Welding Solutions' long-term growth and success in Michigan," MEDC President and CEO Greg Main said. "This is a high-tech company creating high-tech jobs, and we look forward to a lasting partnership as we work to diversify Michigan's economy."

According to Dr. Thomas E. Anderson, Senior Director of Automation Alley, "What this merger does is permit SpaceForm Welding Solutions to become a welding solutions company that provides optimal solutions to meet different challenges, as opposed to being a single technology company."

Welding Solutions is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Weldmation, Inc., an equipment and systems integrator. Their Super-MIG welding process, under license from PLT Inc. is an innovative robotic welding technology developed by combining two reliable standard welding processes, plasma arc and MIG arc, into one hybrid process that can deliver greater welding speeds under variable gap conditions, deeper weld penetration and reduced heat input.

SpaceForm Welding Solutions will operate a research laboratory on 13 Mile Road in Madison Heights, Michigan and have the capability of supporting customers in a cradle to grave concept – being able to provide product development, welding development, product validation and equipment infrastructure. The company will also continue to focus on acquiring the rights to additional innovative welding and manufacturing technologies.

About SpaceForm: SpaceForm is an advanced welding company set up to commercialize the patented Deformation Resistance Welding process as a way to cut costs, improve material performance and optimize the welding technology for mobile structures. Headquartered in TechTown, Detroit's Research and Technology Park, SpaceForm was established by Delphi Corp., Automation Alley and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. For more information about SpaceForm visit www.spaceformtech.com.

About Welding Solutions: Welding Solutions is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Weldmation Inc., a full service weld assembly process provider with complete welding, fabrication, assembly and factory automation systems. Founded in 1961, Weldmation is headquartered in Madison Heights, MI and has served the needs of the world's automotive, white goods and defense industries with the development of efficient and cost effective welding assembly processes and their supporting operations. For more information, visit www.weldmation.com.