

## Legrand continues expansion on emerging markets with the acquisition of Kontaktor in Russia

- Legrand is poised to take control of Kontaktor, Russia's undisputed leader for high current circuit breakers.
- Reinforcement of its presence in Russia, where it is already a leader in wiring devices, cable management and modular circuit breakers, makes Legrand a key player position on a market showing exceptionally vigorous growth and continues its rapid expansion on emerging markets.

Following its acquisitions of TCL and Shidean in China and Cemar in Brazil, Legrand is continuing expansion in emerging countries with a move to take control of Kontaktor, the Russian leader for air circuit breakers and molded case circuit breakers, a transaction subject to the approval of competent authorities.

Integration of Kontaktor will complement Legrand's number-two place for modular circuit breakers in Russia and, by the same token, its robust presence on this rapidly expanding market, where it also ranks first in wiring devices as well as first in trunking. Posting a 43% rise in sales for 2006, Kontaktor will make a significant contribution to Legrand's continuing development in Russia, where its sales have grown by an annual average of over 40% over the past 13 years.

Based in Oulianovsk to the southeast of Moscow, Kontaktor counts over 2,400 employees and reported sales of €35 million in 2006.

Gilles Schnepf, Legrand Chairman and CEO comments: *"Continuing the strategy for acquisition-driven growth recently illustrated by our acquisitions of HPM in Australia and Ustec in the US, the acquisition of Kontaktor is an important success, enabling Legrand to expand its commercial presence on a market showing robust growth and reinforce overall exposure to emerging markets."*

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#### Key dates

- 2007 first-half results: July 26, 2007
- 2007 9-month results: November 8, 2007

#### ABOUT LEGRAND

*Legrand ([www.legrandelectric.com](http://www.legrandelectric.com)) is the world specialist in products and systems for electrical installations and information networks, offering solutions for use in residential, commercial and industrial buildings. Operating in over 60 countries with sales of €3.7 billion in 2006, it employs about 33,000 people and its catalogues list more than 130,000 products. At Legrand, innovation drives growth: with nearly 5% of sales invested in R&D every year, the group brings out a steady stream of new, high added-value products.*

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