

Company Notebook

MAGNET JOINT VENTURE HELPS OXFORD INSTRUMENTS

A strong turnaround in Oxford Instruments' magnetic resonance imaging magnet business, following the formation of a joint venture with Siemens of Germany, helped raise interim pre-tax profits from £ 4m to £ 6.1m.

Oxford Instruments was a go-go stock in the mid-1980s when its magnet business excited investors. But high hopes were dashed when it fell into losses. The joint venture with Siemens seems to have solved that problem.

CARPCO CELEBRATED

Carpco Inc., Jacksonville, FLA., U.S.A. is celebrating over forty years of serving the minerals, recycling, food and chemical processing markets.

CARPCO-CCL COOPERATION

Carpco Inc. has been named the sole North American distributor for Cryogenics Consultants' Cryofilter HGMS, a high-gradient superconducting magnetic separator designed primarily for the kaolin industry.

The separator has been in operation since March 1989 in the Goonvean kaolin plant in Cornwall, England which makes it the third superconducting magnetic separator to be applied to kaolin beneficiation. The first production-size separator of this kind was commissioned in 1985 in Czechoslovakia, followed by a cyclic Eriez machine installed in 1987 in Georgia.

MAGNETIC FORMING OF METALS

The Engineering College of Zwickau in the former East Germany has developed a technique of magnetic forming of metals in which by exposing selected parts of a workpiece to electromagnetic pulsed fields a formation is carried out without mechanical contact.

Magnetic forming is particularly suited to the reduction of manufacturing costs in forming, cutting and joining. It is particularly suitable for joining hollow profiles.

RARE-EARTH MAGNET OUTPUT SET TO BEGIN

France's Aimants Ugimag have begun commercial production in Europe of neodymium-iron-boron magnets, reportedly with exceptional corrosion resistance and thermal stability.

U.S. production was scheduled to start late last year. The permanent magnets will be produced by Aimants Ugimag in France, Ugimag Recoma in Switzerland and IGT Ltd. in Great Britain. They will be marketed in Europe under the trade name Ugistab.

IG Technologies Inc., Valparaiso, Indiana will produce the magnets in the United States. The company was acquired in July 1989 by Aimants Ugimag, one of a group of companies under the banner of Pechiney SA, Paris.

Development of the magnets was the result of a joint effort by Pechiney companies and Japan's Intermagnetics Co. Ltd.