

Contact: Steven Rupp
ZirChrom Separations, Inc.
(763) 421-5264
StevenRupp@zirchrom.com

Ethel Shepard
Cabot Corporation
(617) 342-6254
ethel_shepard@cabot-corp.com

ZirChrom Separations Inc., Launches New DiamondBond™ Chromatography Columns

New High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) Columns Offer a Broader Range of Selectivity, Higher Efficiency and Unparalleled Durability

New Orleans, LA (March 6, 2001) – A new class of HPLC columns for analytical and preparative chemical separations, DiamondBond™, will be introduced by ZirChrom Separations, Inc. at PITTCON 2001 Trade Show in New Orleans, LA. The new DiamondBond columns offer a broader range of selectivity, higher efficiency and unparalleled durability compared to other columns currently on the market. ZirChrom will introduce its new product at a press conference on Tuesday, March 6, at 2PM in Room 333334, Morial Convention Center.

A first in the industry, the DiamondBond columns combine chromatographic particles created by ZirChrom with proprietary carbon-surface chemistry developed by Cabot Corporation (NYSE: CBT). The columns eliminate the tradeoffs that method development chromatographers traditionally have had to make between selectivity, efficiency, and stability. The first member in a new family of columns, DiamondBondC18, is now available. Other products in the family will be introduced in the coming months.

For chromatographers involved in method development, the new DiamondBond columns overcome the weaknesses of silica-based products, and offer the following unique advantages:

- A broad range of selectivity options
- True pH stability across the entire range (1-14) in any mobile phase
- Thermal stability to 200° C for faster analyses
- Efficiencies equal to or better than silica columns

Dr. Peter Carr, President, ZirChrom, said, “ZirChrom’s new DiamondBond columns are unmatched in their ability to greatly improve the speed and reliability of analysis and the efficiency of HPLC separations. We believe we have a product that will become the column of choice where selectivity, efficiency and durability are major factors in the analyses of samples.”

Greg Gaudet, Business Development Director at Cabot said, “We’ve combined the best of our technologies to create a new generation of innovative columns that extend the operating range chromatographers can use to develop more robust methods.”

About ZirChrom Separations

ZirChrom Separations, Inc. is a company formed in 1995 and located in Anoka, Minnesota. ZirChrom manufactures a full line of zirconia-based high performance chromatographic materials for analysis and purification by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).

About Cabot Corporation

Cabot Corporation is a Fortune 500 global specialty chemicals and materials company, headquartered in Boston, Mass. Cabot is a recognized leader in the production of fine, sub-micron particles, comprising carbon, metals and metal oxides. These particles have enhanced the performance of a variety of products, including rubber reinforcement, rheology control in adhesives, and UV protection and electrostatic dissipation in plastics. #####