

Filtrona Fibertec

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Business Description



World leading supplier of bonded fiber components for writing instruments, inkjet printers, medical devices, and household products.

Our products move and store liquids utilising capillary transfer science.

Products & Applications

Filtrona Fibertec components function as:

- *Reservoirs*: products to absorb, retain, and/or release liquid
- *Wicks*: products to transfer liquid between two points
- *Filters*: products to filter particulate or separate liquid mixes

Areas of Application include:

- Ink delivery
- Medical and Life Sciences
- Household Products







Ink Delivery Components – Writing Instruments



Worldwide leader of fiber components for writing instruments:

- Reservoirs
- Backplugs/endplugs
- Overflow components and wicks

Supplier to market leaders throughout the world:

- Faber Castell
- Bic®
- Staedler Mars
- Schwan Stabilo
- Edding
- Newell Rubbermaid/Sanford
- Mitsubishi
- Crayola®



Ink Delivery Components – Printing Systems



Extension of capillary expertise to high growth markets

- Inkjet cartridge reservoirs and wicks
- Absorptive and liquid storage components for inkjet and laser printers

Active with OEM and compatible inkjet cartridge manufacturers worldwide

- Hewlett Packard
- Kodak
- Many other inkjet industry manufacturers throughout the world



Diagnostic and Medical Devices



Capillary transfer components and filters used in in-vitro diagnostic devices

- Diagnostic assays components (human, veterinary, environmental, food) Pregnancy and ovulation test wicks
- Test kit components for infectious diseases [HIV, strep throat], and drugs of abuse (THC)
- **Pipette tip filters**
- Life sciences molecular level separation



Supplier to worldwide market leaders

- Abbott Diagnostics
- Becton Dickinson
- Bayer
- BioRad
- Inverness (Clearblue®)
- **Fisher Scientific**
- Idexx
- Eppendorf

Household Products



Capillary transfer components used in many segments of the household products market

- Air Care air fresheners and insecticide delivery
- Cleaning Surface and Laundry Care
 Consumer and Industrial
- Personal Care
- Cosmetics
- Specialty filtration

Well known customers include

- Sara Lee
- Reckitt Benckiser
- SC Johnson
- Faber Castell
- Schwan Stabilo







Market Position

Established Global Leader

- Writing instrument reservoirs
- Pregnancy and ovulation test wicks
- Liquid air freshener wicks

Strong and Emerging Position

- Inkjet cartridge media
- Rapid diagnostics media
- Cleaning & personal care components



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Sources of Competitive Advantage



- Fiber bonding technology for custom designed three dimensional forms that is cost effective while maintaining superior quality and performance
- Specialisation in custom technical products
- Material science expertise
- Continuous innovation and expansion of capillary science expertise
- Proprietary processes and materials
- Time to market with solutions
- High volume production capability
- Vigilant protection of comprehensive IP assets
- Global footprint

Operations and Global Footprint





- N. American plant in Richmond, Virginia, United States
- 189 employees
- 188,000 ft² completed in 2000



- European plant in Reinbek, (Hamburg) Germany
- 192 employees
- 136,000ft²
- Additional Sales offices in US, Switzerland, China, Japan
- All plants ISO 9001 / 14001 certified
- Serving customers in 63 countries



- Asian plant in Ningbo, China
- 80 employees
- Operational in 2005
- Expanded to 146,000ft² in 2007

Underlying Growth Drivers



- Global demand for high quality liquid handling components in large volumes
- Increasing sophistication of inks and other liquids requires more complex and customised handling components
- Emerging market shift to higher quality components to achieve export quality
- Increased consumption of high quality products in developing economies across all product areas
- Global shift of rapid diagnostics from laboratory to point of care and consumer home testing
- Growing interest in cleaning products that focus on convenience

Forward Strategy



- Secure and grow organic business in all markets
- Increase marketing activities to create improved awareness of Fibertec capabilities and engineer demand
- Expand presence in emerging markets, with focus on Asia and Eastern Europe
- Develop new products and markets using new and existing technologies
 - Continuous innovation to provide solutions to unmet market needs
 - Development in additional niche segments, targeting cleaning and personal care markets
 - Specialty filtration applications
- Identify acquisitions that complement existing markets or liquid handling technologies



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