



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Schroders increases its equity interest in SMARTRAC to more than 12 percent, Fortis purchases close to a 10 percent equity interest**

- **Investment company Schroders significantly extends its commitment to SMARTRAC shares**
- **Fortis Investment, a new investor, purchases close to a 10 percent equity interest**
- **Sustained interest of institutional investors served through successful placement of approximately 40 percent of the company's share capital**

Amsterdam, March 22, 2007 - SMARTRAC N.V. announced today that the investment company Schroders reported that it holds more than 12 percent of SMARTRAC's shares. This represents a significant increase in Schroders' investment in the company's shares.

Furthermore, Fortis Investment as a new investor reported that it has purchased an equity interest in SMARTRAC of close to 10 percent.

Fortis and Schroders purchased shares in the course of the placement in which approximately 40 percent of SMARTRAC's share capital was placed mainly with institutional investors last week.

"We have substantially increased the liquidity of our stock in the market," said Dr. Christian Fischer, CFO of SMARTRAC. "The sustained strong interest in our shares is evidence that investors look favourably upon our strategy and have confidence in our business model and the excellent prospects of our company."

Due to the latest placement of shares, by which SMARTRAC strengthened the position mainly of institutional investors, the free float of SMARTRAC's shares according to the definition of Deutsche Boerse currently is approximately 75 percent.

Subsequent to this latest share transaction, the family of Manfred Rietzler, CEO of SMARTRAC, still controls an equity interest of 25.2 percent of all shares.

#### **About SMARTRAC N.V.**

SMARTRAC is the world's leading supplier of RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) components in the standard and high-security product segments. For the standard segment, SMARTRAC manufactures intermediate products for RFID applications in public transport, access control and logistics. In the high-security segment, SMARTRAC is the global market leader and supplies high-value RFID inlays for passports with integrated contactless chips (ePassports) and for contactless credit cards (ePayment). SMARTRAC was founded in 2000, and since its initial public offering in July 2006 has been a stock corporation under Dutch law and domiciled in Amsterdam. At the end of 2006, the company employed a total workforce of approximately 1,800 people.



SMARTTRAC's main production and R&D facilities are located in Bangkok (Thailand), and it has sales offices in Stuttgart and Singapore. The company has exclusive access to patented machinery through an agreement with Xytec Solutions (of Kulim, Malaysia), in which SMARTTRAC holds a 30 percent stake. SMARTTRAC has a broad technology base. Its core competence is wire-embedding technology for the production of high-value RFID inlays; SMARTTRAC holds major patents taken out on wire-embedding technology and has exclusive rights of use in many areas. It also has access to the etching production processes of multitape GmbH, in which SMARTTRAC holds a 25 percent equity interest.



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