

## Media Release

Zurich, May 31, 2006

### **Schmack Biogas AG successfully listed at the Prime Standard in Frankfurt**

Schmack Biogas AG, a SAM Private Equity Portfolio Company, raised EUR 71.3 million in the IPO on May 24, 2006.

**Zurich and Montreal, May 31, 2006** – SAM Private Equity, a leading international venture capital firm focused exclusively on investments in companies developing and commercializing clean technologies, today announced a partial liquidation of their investment in Schmack Biogas AG following the company's initial public offering (IPO) of May 24 at the Prime Standard in Frankfurt, Germany. The emission was lead by the Bayerische Hypo- und Vereinsbank as a sole global coordinator and bookrunner. The IPO was oversubscribed several times and the placement volume amounted to EUR 71.3 mio. The offer price was set at EUR 31, representing a company value of EUR 153 mio (post money).

Schmack Biogas AG provides turn-key biogas plants with over 145 plants sold to date. The company specializes in anaerobic digestion of biomass, a natural microbial process that converts organic material into a methane rich gas. This biogas can be used both for electricity and heat generation as well as a substitute for pipeline gas.

SAM Private Equity participated in the last private equity financing round in May 2005 to provide growth capital and strategic advice to the company. As one of the largest shareholder in Schmack Biogas AG, SAM is represented in the supervisory board by Dr. Philipp Hasler, an investment director of SAM Private Equity.

"The company's strong performance and the favorable market conditions provided for a highly successful IPO much sooner than originally anticipated," said Gina Domanig, head of SAM Private Equity. "From the onset, we anticipated strong market demand and were convinced that the technology developed by Schmack Biogas AG offers clear benefits to its customers. The highly successful partial exit is also a clear validation of our team's unique competence to assess and select market leaders in the global cleantech sector."

#### About Schmack Biogas AG

Schmack Biogas AG is a leading German full-service provider of biogas plants. Established in 1995, the company provides its services through two divisions, namely *Planning and Construction* and *Service and Operation* and is one of the full-service providers in the industry. Apart from technical support, the company focuses on comprehensive microbiological service.

The company's target customer groups are farmers, energy utilities and capital investors. Farmers will remain an important target group for biogas plants between 185 and 500 kW. The company aims to sell even more plants than today to capital investors and energy utilities, especially plants larger than about 500 kW. Upon request, all customers receive the full range of services from a single source and benefit from long-term support.

In addition to turn-key plant sales and services, Schmack Biogas AG plans to build and operate its own biogas plants and to make the operation of own plants a third business division in its own right.

The company's activities will remain focused on the German market, which today represents about 90 percent of the world market. Besides the German market, Italy and the Netherlands are currently the most interesting emerging markets for Schmack Biogas AG. The company intends to make inroads into these markets through investments in local companies.

To date, Schmack Biogas AG has built 145 plants with a combined nominal output of 28.9 MW. As of March 2006, another 57 plants are being planned, while 11 biogas plants are already in the construction phase.

[www.schmack-biogas.com](http://www.schmack-biogas.com)

#### About SAM Private Equity

SAM Private Equity is a leading international venture capital firm focusing on emerging technologies in the energy, materials and water sectors. Founded in 2000, SAM Private Equity is a pioneer in the development of this fast growing "Cleantech" investment sector. With assets under management of around EUR 200 million, 33 portfolio companies and offices in Zurich and Montreal, SAM Private Equity today is one of the internationally leading venture capital investors in this sector.

SAM Private Equity manages three venture capital funds and two venture capital mandates of large North American institutional investors. SAM Private Equity's investors include CDP (Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec), The Dow Chemical Company, SwissRe, Apxo, EDF (Electricité de France), Norsk Hydro, Ontario Power Generation, Hydro Quebec, Suncor and Mitsui.

SAM Private Equity is part of SAM Sustainable Asset Management, headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland.

[www.sam-group.com](http://www.sam-group.com)



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**SAM Sustainable Asset Management (SAM)** was founded in 1995 as an independent asset management company specializing in sustainability investments. Today SAM ranks among the world's leading institutions in this sector. Its clients include banks, insurance companies, pension funds, trusts and private investors. Through systematic analysis, SAM seeks to identify companies with sustainable success criteria. Integrating these forward-looking criteria into the investment process gives the investor the greatest possible degree of control, transparency and an attractive return. Besides individual mandates for institutional investors and private clients, SAM offers financial products in the field of innovative energy technologies, sustainable food production, water, efficient use of resources, sustainability pioneers, sustainability leaders and private equity. SAM's expertise stems from its own research as well as an active, worldwide sustainability network. In cooperation with Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX, SAM launched the world's first family of sustainability indexes, tracking the performance of companies that lead their industry in terms of sustainability. For SAM this means evaluating more than 1,000 companies each year.

SAM Sustainable Asset Management is headquartered in Zurich (Switzerland), and has branches and representative offices in Barcelona (Spain), Melbourne (Australia), Milan (Italy), Montreal (Canada), Sonoma (California, USA) and Stockholm (Sweden).

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