



- Press Release -

**DRAKA AND ALCATEL COMPLETED THE COMBINATION OF GLOBAL
OPTICAL FIBER AND COMMUNICATION CABLE ACTIVITIES**

Amsterdam, Paris, July 2nd, 2004 - Draka Holding N.V. ("Draka") and Alcatel S.A. ("Alcatel") announce that they have completed the transaction in relation to the combination of their respective global optical fiber and communication cable businesses.

This transaction, which was announced in press releases dated 10th February 2004 and 17th May 2004, creates a world leader in the field of optical fiber and communication cable, in which Draka owns 50.1% and Alcatel owns 49.9%. The effective date of the transaction is 1st July 2004 and the name of the new company is Draka Comteq B.V.

About Draka

Draka Holding N.V. (“Draka”) is the holding company of a number of operating companies which are engaged worldwide in the development, production and sale of cable and cable systems. Draka’s operations are centred on its Telecommunication Cable and Systems Product Group and Low-Voltage and Special-Purpose Cable Product Group.

Draka has 59 operating companies in 25 countries in Europe, America and Asia. The company has a flat, decentralised organisational structure, in which the operating companies enjoy a large measure of independence and are accountable for their own net turnover and results.

Approximately 7,850 people are employed by Draka companies worldwide. Draka Holding N.V., the head office, is established in Amsterdam. In 2003, Draka achieved net turnover of € 1.4 billion, with a net result of € 11.2 million.

Draka Holding N.V. ordinary shares and subordinated convertible debentures are listed on Euronext Amsterdam. The company has been included in the Next150 indice since 2001. As from 8 July 2002 options on Draka-shares are traded on the Euronext Amsterdam Derivative Markets.

About Alcatel

Alcatel provides communications solutions to telecommunication carriers, Internet service providers and enterprises for delivery of voice, data and video applications to their customers or to their employees. Alcatel leverages its leading position in fixed and mobile broadband networks, applications and services to bring value to its customers in the framework of a broadband world. With sales of € 12.5 billion in 2003, Alcatel operates in more than 130 countries. For more information, visit Alcatel on the Internet: <http://www.alcatel.com>