

PRESS RELEASES

- FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION -

Miguel Fernandez and Peter Guertler to take the lead at Silica

Paris - September 25th, 2002 -- Specialist semiconductor distributor Silica named 23-year industry veteran Miguel Fernandez as its new President, succeeding Marianne Culver, who has left the company. She had been with Avnet or its predecessor since 1987. Fernandez, who has been with Avnet since 2000 and has been in the distribution industry since 1979, will be accompanied by distribution veteran Peter Guertler, who will act as Chief Operating Officer of Silica.

The new top executives of Silica will share responsibilities: While Miguel Fernandez will concentrate on the sales, finance, marketing and engineering efforts of Silica, Peter Guertler's focus will be operations, asset management and customer service. Both will share responsibility for supplier strategy.

Axel Hartstang, President of Avnet Electronics Marketing EMEA, the parent organization of Silica, expressed his delight about his new top team at Silica: "I wish Marianne well in her new endeavours. I am extremely glad that two of our most experienced top executives at Avnet EM have stepped up to lead Silica. Their combined distribution experience of almost 60 years will help Silica enormously."

Silica was created one year ago, out of the former Avnet Electronics Marketing's semiconductor business in Europe, and represents leading semiconductor manufacturers such as AMD, Analog Devices, Intel, Philips, Xilinx and others. Hartstang: "Silica is a very important part of our European specialist strategy. Silica, Avnet Time, BFI OPTiLAS, EBV Elektronik and WBC form the group of specialist distributors widely known as 'Speedboats.' Product and application specialisation, as we offer them through these business units, will help customers develop and produce the right end product solutions for their various end markets at the right time and the right price points."



The new President of Silica, Miguel Fernandez (49), is a 23-year industry veteran and has been with Avnet since early 2000, when Avnet acquired the SEI group. From February 2001, Miguel served as Chief of Staff for Avnet Electronics Marketing EMEA and was responsible for IT, Business Processes and Quality. Before that, Fernandez was Executive Vice President of the SEI group and oversaw the SEI business in Iberia as well as the European-wide implementation of the then new IT system at SEI. Miguel started to work in distribution in 1979 and joined Sonepar, the parent company of the later SEI group, in 1983. Miguel holds a postgraduate degree in telecom engineering from the Polytechnical University of Madrid and an MBA from the University of Navarra.

Fernandez outlined his plans as Silica's new President openly: "Over the last year we have seen the progress of Silica in a very difficult market environment, gaining momentum and maintaining its market share while going through a big organizational overhaul. Now it is time to maximise the return on capital and to capitalize on the big improvements that have been made in the basic distribution services."

Peter Guertler's merits and achievements for the EBV group, as well as for Avnet Logistics, explain themselves. Axel Hartstang: "Peter Guertler is a 35-year veteran in the industry, and a legend in distribution. He has served in almost every capacity and knows distribution inside out." In his last assignment, Peter Guertler (58) turned around Avnet Logistics from a multi-warehouse backbone company to a streamlined and highly efficient logistics organization with above industry standard services, coming from two megacenters in Poing, Germany and Tongeren, Belgium.

"With the help of Avnet Logistics, Silica's operational efficiency on the logistical side has become second to none in the industry. This, in combination with our excellent line card and a highly motivated team of distribution experts, should make it possible to make Silica one of the most successful and best respected semiconductor distribution experts in the European market," Guertler said.



About Silica

Silica, a division of Avnet Electronics Marketing EMEA (Europe, Middle-East, Africa), is a highly specialised semiconductor distributor. Silica has sales & marketing offices throughout Europe and provides a broad portfolio of semiconductor products and solutions from world leading suppliers to all market segments in the electronics industry. The company's Web site is located at www.silica.com.

Serving customers in 63 countries, Avnet Electronics Marketing is the largest operating group of Phoenix, Ariz.-based Avnet, Inc. (NYSE:AVT). Avnet Electronics Marketing markets, inventories and adds value to electronic components and provides world-class supply-chain management and engineering design services. Avnet, with fiscal year 2002 sales of \$ 8.9 billion (year ended June 28, 2002), is the world's largest distributor of semiconductors, interconnect, passive and electromechanical components, embedded subsystems and enterprise computing products from leading manufacturers.

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