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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SMITHERS PROMOTES TWO TO VICE PRESIDENTS  
TO CHART COURSE FOR TESTING ACTIVITIES**

AKRON, Ohio (March 21, 2001) – Smithers Scientific Services Inc. has named Raymond B. Farmer vice president of Smithers Automotive Testing Division, and David L. Schwarz, vice president of Smithers Component and Materials Testing Division, both effective immediately.

Mr. Farmer, 43, will continue to oversee the operations of the Ravenna Laboratories in Ravenna, Ohio; Smithers Winter Test Center near Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; Smithers Greenville Test Center in South Carolina; Smithers Transportation Test Center in Pecos, Texas; and the firm’s new joint-venture company – Automotive Testing DRIVEtech LLC, in Laredo, Texas. In addition, he will focus on developing more business opportunities in the automotive sector.

He joined Smithers in November 1995 as manager of its Ravenna Laboratories, responsible for all indoor testing at the facility. In June 1997, he was appointed managing director of all Smithers’ tire and automotive testing activities, a position he held until being named vice president.

Mr. Farmer has an extensive automotive background with emphasis on sales and marketing. Prior to Smithers, he was general manager of Mickey Thompson Tires in Stow, Ohio. For more than 12 years, he worked at the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) in Barberton, Ohio, as commercial manager of the firm’s automotive products.

He holds an MBA degree from Case Western Reserve University and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Mr. Schwarz, 38, will continue to oversee the operations of the Akron Laboratories that includes analytical, physical and environmental testing of various polymer products and the sales and marketing activities of one of Smithers' core businesses, the tire analysis reports. He will also be responsible for establishing a new sales office in Detroit.

He joined Smithers in October 1990 as project manager for molded rubber goods and tire services. A year later, he was named operations manager for the Akron Laboratories, the position he held until July 1996, when he was appointed general manager of the Akron Laboratories.

Mr. Schwarz has vast experience in rubber compound formulation and a working knowledge of rubber processing from mixing to curing. Prior to Smithers, he was employed for seven years at Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. in Akron where he held a variety of materials and engineering development positions.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree from Bowling Green State University.

Commenting on the promotions, Smithers' President and CEO J. Michael Hochschwender praised the two executives for their "exemplary performances" in recent months, "resulting in business growth opportunities for our organization. Together they will chart the course for Smithers' testing activities."

Smithers is a leading independent testing, research and consulting firm, headquartered in Akron, Ohio, serving an international client base of designers and manufacturers of automotive, tire, aerospace, elastomeric, plastic, steel, chemical, medical and transportation products. For more information, log onto Smithers' Web site at [www.smithers-scientific.com](http://www.smithers-scientific.com).

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