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DR MERVYN WITHERSPOON JOINS FILTRONA FILTER PRODUCTS

Filtrona Filter Products, the world's leading independent supplier of specialist filters to the tobacco industry, has appointed Dr Mervyn Witherspoon as Technology and New Product Development Director based at its Technology Centre in Jarrow, England and reporting in to Managing Director, PT Sreekumar.

With 32 years experience in the chemical, fibres and polymers industries, a BSc in Chemistry and a PhD in Inorganic Chemistry, Dr Witherspoon joins Filtrona from Acetate Products Ltd where he was Technical Director. Prior to this, Mervyn was General Manager of two fine chemical businesses and also held a number of senior positions in the technical, R&D and business unit management teams within the Courtaulds Group and its successors: Acordis and Acetate Products.

Dr Witherspoon says of his new role: "I am very excited by the challenges facing the Filtrona Technology Centre (FTC) and am looking forward to working in an environment where innovation is part of the culture and underpins all new product developments. With this in mind, one of my main focuses in this position will be to develop and deliver new product solutions to the industry.

"Filtrona occupies a unique position in the tobacco industry which is firmly founded on innovative, knowledgeable and resourceful people and I want to make sure that our customers are always fully aware of our skills and capabilities so that we can apply them in a way that will guarantee maximum growth and enhancement of the market. It is extremely important to Filtrona as a company, and also to me on a personal level, that we provide our customers with excellent service. Key to achieving this will be the establishment of partnerships that give our customers access to fresh and creative ideas enabling them to distinguish their products. The excellent Scientific Services analytical capability Filtrona can provide will also help due to the rapid, independent and accredited support to the industry that it is able to provide on demand."

Filtrona Filter Products

Avebury House, 201-249 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 1AU, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)1908 359100

Fax: +44 (0)1908 359156

email: filtersenquiries@filtrona.com

www.filtronafilters.com