

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Thermo Electron introduces new high temperature oven
for the HAAKE MARS laboratory rheometer platform**

Now able to characterize at a wide range of temperatures for polymer melts

Newington, NH (May 1, 2005) -- Thermo Electron Corporation will introduce the new high temperature oven for the HAAKE Modular Advanced Rheometer System (MARS) today at ANTEC 2005, the annual technical conference of the Society of Plastics Engineers, held in Boston, MA. The new oven operates at a wide temperature range to enable the system to measure the rheological properties of polymer melts and composites.

The recently introduced HAAKE MARS platform features a modular design that allows researchers to adapt the system quickly and easily for different applications and test needs. All rheological measurements can be performed in CR (controlled rate), CS (controlled stress) and CD (controlled deformation) modes, in rotation and in oscillation. A new normal force sensor allows negative normal forces to be measured for tensile test applications.

The new oven is designed for ease of handling, functionality and a wide range of measurements. The oven chamber can be observed through viewing windows. The independent movement of the chamber halves promotes fast sample trimming and cleaning. The oven uses a combination of radiant and convective heating, which provides fast temperature ramps and extremely small temperature gradients. When not in use, it can quickly be parked out of the measuring area.

The HAAKE MARS system is easy to operate, and the base frame offers room for expansion with simple adjustments to accommodate additional modules and to customize applications. All relevant components, including the measuring head and electronics, can be interchanged. The rugged frame is made from precision casting designed to increase its strength and to expand its capabilities for future measurement components.

The HAAKE RheoWin 3 software and new sensor recognition tool allow measurement and evaluation functions to be performed and saved easily. In addition, an optional polymer software package allows the user to calculate master curves, spectra and molecular weight distributions.

For more information about the MARS platform and Thermo Electron Corporation's portfolio of products for characterizing polymers, please visit www.thermo.com/mc.

About Thermo Electron Corporation

Thermo Electron Corporation is the world leader in analytical instruments. Our instrument solutions enable our customers to make the world a healthier, cleaner and safer place. Thermo's Life and Laboratory Sciences segment provides analytical instruments, scientific equipment, services and software solutions for life science, drug discovery, clinical, environmental and industrial laboratories. Thermo's Measurement and Control segment is dedicated to providing analytical instruments used in a variety of manufacturing processes and in-the-field applications, including those associated with safety and homeland security. Based near Boston, Massachusetts, Thermo has revenues of more than \$2 billion, and employs approximately 10,000 people in 30 countries. For more information, visit www.thermo.com.

About Thermo Electron Corporation – Material Characterization

The Material Characterization business of Thermo Electron Corporation is headquartered in Karlsruhe, Germany and operates worldwide through offices in the USA, China, France, Great Britain and the Netherlands. Thermo offers a comprehensive range of material characterization products that analyze and process materials for rheological and thermal properties. These instruments analyze and measure viscosity, elasticity, processability and temperature-related mechanical changes of plastics, foods, adhesives, coatings, and a wide variety of liquids or solids. Thermo provides innovative solutions for material characterization in the Food and Beverage industry, the Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic sector, and for Polymer and Plastic process manufacturing. For more information, visit www.thermo.com/mc.

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