



NEWS RELEASE

21 December 2010

New Cooper engine plant opens for manufacture of state-of-the-art engines developed with Ricardo

The new 'Mega Project Engine Plant' – with a production capacity of 24,000 engines per year – is a significant investment by Cooper Corporation which builds upon the company's long-standing association with Ricardo on engine technology

The new manufacturing facility at Satara, Maharashtra, was formally opened by Shri. Jayant Patil, Hon. Minister of Rural Development in the State government of Maharashtra, in the presence of fellow ministers, principals of Cooper Corporation, Farrokh Cooper and Zal Cooper, and directors of the Indian and international divisions of Ricardo. Also in attendance were over 4000 invited guests from India's automotive, engine and components industries.

In January of this year, Cooper and Ricardo unveiled the design of a brand new twin cylinder vertical in-line engine, the first of a family which will form the basis of initial production at the new Mega Project Engine Plant. Available in diesel, CNG and LPG versions ranging from 26 to 55 HP, these state-of-the-art engines with exceptional performance, reliability, serviceability and NVH characteristics, are intended for application in both the domestic Indian and export markets.

Commenting at the launch of the new Cooper engine plant, Ricardo UK director Paul McNamara said: "It is a great pleasure to be here at the opening of such an impressive industrial venture. It is also an honour for Ricardo to have been working with a forward looking company such as Cooper that will deliver new world class products to India and the world. The association between our two companies dates back over 25 years and it has been fantastic to renew old friendships in our current collaboration on the new series of 2, 4 & 6 cylinder Cooper engines."

Mayank Agochiya, president of Ricardo India, added: "Ricardo is continuing to collaborate with Cooper to develop a global market and target account strategy for the engines that will be manufactured in this new facility. Key markets of focus will be India, North America Western Europe, Middle East Africa and South East Asia for on and off highway applications."

Ends



NEWS RELEASE

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Ricardo plc: With technical centres and offices in the UK, USA, Germany, the Czech Republic, France, Italy, Russia, China, Japan, India and Korea, Ricardo is a leading independent technology provider and strategic consultant to the world's transportation sector and clean energy industries. The company's engineering expertise ranges from vehicle systems integration, controls, electronics and software development, to the latest driveline and transmission systems and gasoline, diesel, hybrid and fuel cell powertrain technologies, as well as wind energy and tidal power systems. Ricardo is committed to excellence and industry leadership in people, technology and knowledge; approximately 70 per cent of its employees are highly qualified multi-disciplined professional engineers and technicians. A public company, Ricardo plc posted sales of £162.8 million in financial year 2010 and is a constituent of the FTSE techMark 100 index – a group of innovative technology companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

Cooper Corporation is a market leader in centrifugal castings and has consistently delivered high quality castings for over 75 years. The Cooper commitment to quality and service is its driving force since inception and something which has enabled the company to scale new heights. The Cooper Group comprises of three companies, spread across a total built-up area of 6,939.97 square meters. Cooper employs over 1600 people comprising engineers, quality control personnel, workmen and administrative staff recruited from the leading educational and technical institutions following a rigorous induction process that strikes a judicious blend of academic expertise and professional exposure.

Media contact:

Anthony Smith
Ricardo Media Office

Tel: +44 (0)1273 382710
Fax: +44 (0)1273 880218
E-mail: media@ricardo.com