

## **News Release**

Date: March 23, 1999

Contact: Mary Beth Jarvis

Koch Industries, Inc. 316-828-3756

## KOCH MEMBRANE SYSTEMS ACQUIRES MAJORITY INTEREST IN ABCOR JAPAN COMPANY

*Wilmington, Mass.* - Koch Membrane Systems, Inc., a worldwide environmental solutions provider and leading manufacturer of innovative water purification and other fluid separation systems, has acquired a majority interest in Abcor Japan Company, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan.

This investment in Abcor Japan Company, a leading membrane systems engineering company in Japan, will reinforce the globalization of Koch's membrane business in Japan and other Asian markets. Abcor Japan Company supplies complete membrane systems as well as replacement membranes and has been associated with Koch Membrane Systems as a distribution partner for many years.

Koch Membrane Systems has over 30 years of experience in applying unique membrane separation systems – using ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis and other advanced membrane technologies – for industries including municipal and industrial water, food, dairy, industrial waste, paper and automotive.

"This investment is key to the company's mission to meet the needs of our global customers through local distribution channels," said David Perry, president of Koch Membrane Systems, Inc. "There is no other manufacturer of membrane products and systems that offers their customers a full complement of products and services like Koch Membrane Systems. This technology partnership ensures that Koch's innovative processing solutions and Abcor's engineering expertise are available in this region, where membrane separation requirements are mounting."

Koch Membrane Systems technology has been instrumental in pioneering environmental solutions to fluid processing challenges from *cryptosporidium* and *giardia* removal from drinking water to seawater desalination, from waste minimization and water reuse to zero discharge. By successfully applying the full array of technological capabilities, including ultrafiltration, microfiltration, nanofiltration, and reverse osmosis to a wide variety of process streams, Koch has earned a reputation as the leader in liquid purification solutions worldwide.

The company's product line includes systems using tubular, hollow fiber, spiral, carbon-composite, and thin film composite membranes. For more information, write or contact Koch Membrane Systems, Inc., 850 Main Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, telephone: 978-657-4250, fax: 978-657-5208 or visit www.kochmembrane.com.

Koch Membrane Systems, Inc., headquartered in Wilmington, Mass., is a subsidiary of Koch Industries, Inc. Koch Industries, through its subsidiaries, employs 16,000 people worldwide and is involved in virtually all phases of the oil and gas industry, as well as in agriculture, chemicals, environmental technology products, energy services, asphalt products, metals and minerals services, real estate and financial investments. For more information, refer to www.kochind.com or www.kochenvironment.com on the Internet.