

For immediate release
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Cotecna signs a Partnership agreement with The SAM Group in process improvement techniques

Through its agreement with The SAM Group, a worldwide consulting and training organization, Cotecna, the international trade inspection group, now offers comprehensive training and consulting programs in management system development and implementation processes, and continual improvement techniques, in particular Six Sigma. All services will be delivered as a co-branded offering of Cotecna-SAM.

Cotecna, through its Quality Resources (CQR) department, will supply training to support these methodologies, from basic awareness courses and supply chain management to Six Sigma Black Belt Certification.

These tools and methodologies enable companies to put in place a disciplined approach to improve process efficiency. The principal objective in using these methodologies is to generate a positive impact on the bottom line.

Cotecna will provide training courses and consulting services, based upon market demand, in all countries in which it has an office outside the USA and Canada. Today this represents close to 60 countries across the globe.

The SAM Group, comprised of STAT-A-MATRIX, STAT-A-MATRIX Institute, and Oriel Incorporated, was founded in 1968 and is based in New Jersey, USA. It is the world's leading consulting and training organization dedicated to improving business processes, management systems, and quality and regulatory compliance. STAT-A-MATRIX is the only course provider registered to both ISO 9001:2000 and TL 9000.

Robert Massey, CEO Cotecna said, "For any company to be able to thrive in today's global economy, it must ensure it has in place the most effective and efficient processes. This agreement will allow Cotecna to offer the best training sessions and supporting materials that exist to support companies in perfecting their business processes."

Contact: Cotecna Geneva
Alison Bourgeois
Vice President Corporate Communications
+41 22 849 7823

Founded in Switzerland in 1974, the Cotecna Group offers a wide range of trade facilitation services, trade security services and quality certification standards. Cotecna is a pioneer in areas such as Risk Management, Destination Inspection, Scanner integration projects, Customs modernization programmes, Customs Valuation Assistance and Trade Security solutions. For a full description of our services, please visit www.cotecna.com. The Cotecna Group has a combined workforce of about 4,000 employees and agents in close to 100 offices throughout 60 countries and holds 14 government inspection contracts.