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CONTACT: Alena Pribišová, Marketing Manager, Minerva Czech Republic Tel: + 420 543 251 119, GSM: 602 154 934

E-mail: marketing@minerva-is.cz, www.minerva-is.eu

The expanding FERMAT group invests in future growth with the QAD ERP system from Minerva Czech Republic

Prague, October 4, 2012

The QAD ERP system covers all of the FERMAT group's enterprise processes and reduces production times.

Minerva ČR, the exclusive provider of QAD Enterprise Applications in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, today announced that it has signed a contract to supply and implement the QAD RAPID ERP system for Small to Medium sized Businesses (SMB) in the expanding Czech-based FERMAT group of companies. Minerva and QAD were selected ahead of systems by Microsoft and SAP, largely due to the comprehensive nature of QAD and positive feedback from Minerva customers.

FERMAT is a leading Czech manufacturer and supplier of horizontal boring machines. The company delivers and installs them for machine manufacturing and the production of precision components in a variety of industrial sectors throughout the world. The company has been aggressively expanding into new markets and recently took advantage of the opportunity presented by the economic recession to invest in three manufacturing firms – HMB Liberec, Strojtos Lipník and Pressl Rokycany. The resulting expanded FERMAT group of companies now has its main manufacturing and assembly centres located in Brno and Prague with sales agencies in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Hungary, the USA. Canada, India and China.

A sharp increase in production volume amounting to annual growth of c. 30% in recent years combined with higher demands on production planning and the fast expansion of the group led the FERMAT management to recognise the need to invest in a state-of-the-art, fully integrated ERP system. Jiří Haluza, the head of the tender who is also managing the implementation project explains why QAD was chosen ahead of systems by Microsoft and SAP in a multi-round tender. "Visits to Minerva customers played an important role in the decision-making process. We visited two customers and observed that all the processes in custom and combined engineering production were comprehensively covered by the QAD system." He continues, "Our primary focus for the new system is in the area of production management, especially production planning. However, the system will bring other additional economic benefits of the solution which are equally as important."

The entire project, which will gradually include all of the companies in the group, has been divided into several stages. The first stage involves the implementation of the QAD ERP system at the group's manufacturing plants in Brno and Prague. This will be enhanced, for example, by automatic Shop Floor Data Collection utilising barcodes. The implementation and use of the QAD ERP system at



FERMAT will bring savings not only in production times but also in manufacturing preparation times. A reduction in overall inventory volumes is also anticipated.

MINERVA is the exclusive provider of QAD Enterprise Applications in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and serves as a QAD distributor in Eastern Europe.

Minerva Česká republika is a company with a strong customer focus and strategy oriented towards enterprise applications for manufacturing and distribution companies. It is committed to helping customers improve their overall company management with greater efficiency, control and productivity through the implementation of the correct IT system. Minerva ČR provides its customers with a full line of services, from software implementation through business process optimization consultancy, system integration, world-class e-business solutions and outsourcing. Apart from the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Minerva also operates in Ukraine, Lithuania, Hungary and Romania, serving more than 150 manufacturing and distribution companies. The QAD Enterprise Applications system has been rated by independent analysts on a long-term basis as an industry-focused ERP system with the shortest period of implementation and a low total cost of ownership (TCO). The solution's flexible and open architecture provides a solid foundation for further company growth. QAD Enterprise Applications software is available in 26 languages. For detailed information please visit www.minerva-is.eu.

