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***The Rockwool Group expands:***  
**New Factory in Croatia**

Today the board of Rockwool Adria approved the investment in a green field factory on the Croatian peninsula, Istria. The factory will deliver insulation products to the growing markets of Southern Europe.

The new Croatian factory is the latest step of an overall Rockwool expansion in Europe. It follows the acquisition of the production facilities in Tapolca, Hungary in December 2003 and the erection of new factory in Vyborg, Russia which will be operational in early 2006.

The Croatian factory is planned to start production mid 2007.

Initial establishment costs are estimated at approx. EUR 75 million – an investment which will cover construction, equipment and machinery, and training of staff. For the Rockwool Group, the investment expenditure in 2005 is still expected to be EUR 150 million.

Located in the municipality of Pićan, near the river Raša, the factory will provide an important boost to the local economy in the western area of Istria. The factory is expected to employ 130 operators, management and other staff.

**Further information:**

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