



## **Cabot Performance Materials Doubles Manufacturing Capacity For Tantalum and Niobium Metallurgical Products**

May 23, 2001

Boston, MA (May 23, 2001) -- Cabot Corporation (NYSE: CBT) announced today that its Cabot Performance Materials (CPM) business unit will double its capacity for producing tantalum and niobium metallurgical products. The expansion is planned to meet the growing demand for materials used by the electronics, superconductor, aerospace, and chemical process industries.

This project is part of a multi-year plan to upgrade and expand equipment in the division's manufacturing operations and will include immediate improvements to an existing electron beam furnace and the purchase of a third, new, 2400KW electron beam furnace. Matthew Stershic, Business Unit Manager, CPM said, "Cabot currently produces the largest tantalum ingots in the world, contributing to the exceptional chemical purity and metallurgical properties of our thin film sputtering products. These improvements will increase our capacity and allow us to continue manufacturing and casting ingots as large as 16 inches in diameter."

Thomas H. Odle, Vice President, CPM said, "These projects are consistent with Cabot's commitment to be the preferred supplier of tantalum and niobium to the electronics industry. The Company's extensive and innovative tantalum manufacturing experience, coupled with access to the world's largest and highest quality supply of raw materials, assures that our customers will receive a steady, reliable supply of the highest electronics-grade tantalum products in the world."

Cabot Performance Materials (Boyertown, PA), a supplier of tantalum and other performance metals for over 50 years, is a unit of the Cabot Corporation. Headquartered in Boston, MA, Cabot Corporation is a global supplier of specialty chemicals and performance materials. Cabot also produces carbon black, fumed silica and metal oxides, thermoplastic concentrates, ink-jet colorants, and drilling fluids. Our website address is: <http://www.cabot-corp.com>.