



May 1, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Velcon Filters Completes Acquisition of Warner Lewis GmbH**

Colorado Springs, CO (May 1, 2012)

Velcon Filters, LLC, today announced that it has acquired Warner Lewis GmbH.

Headquartered in Kelsterbach, Germany with locations in Phillipsburg, Germany; Farnborough, UK; Paris, France; and Dubai, UAE; Warner Lewis offers aircraft refueling solutions to customers in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (“EMEA”). Warner Lewis has been a strategic business partner of Velcon for over 40 years distributing Velcon’s line of products, in addition to manufacturing its own standard or custom vessels, pit-boxes and ground fueling products. The acquisition of Warner Lewis represents an opportunity for Velcon to directly serve customers in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

This is the third acquisition for Velcon Filters in the past three years. “Velcon acquired Chemflo in late 2009 to expand our product offering into the energy markets, and in 2010 acquired Twin Filter B.V. in the Netherlands to diversify and grow the business in the oil, liquid and air filtration markets,” Greg Elliott, Chairman of the Board of Velcon Filters said. “We are excited to expand in the aviation fuel market where Velcon is a market leader in filtration and Warner Lewis is a trusted provider of filtration and refueling solutions.”

Keith McAslan, President of Velcon said, “Since 1969, Warner Lewis has been the recognized leader for aircraft fueling components and solutions in Europe, the Middle East and Africa and has been Velcon’s exclusive distributor in that region. As Velcon looks toward its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year, we are pleased to join with Warner Lewis and directly provide a broader range of products and solutions to our aviation customers in the Americas and EMEA.”

Mark Hoyer, recently promoted as Velcon Filters Vice President of Global Sales, and Bruno Gervasoni, who will remain with the company as Managing Director, both commented: “The entire Warner Lewis organization is excited about joining the Velcon team and believes this partnership will provide opportunities to further develop and expand the aviation product offerings whilst continuing the excellent service to which customers of both Velcon and Warner Lewis have been accustomed.”

\*\*\*\*\*

Velcon Filters LLC, a portfolio company of The Sterling Group and headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is a niche manufacturer of filtration systems, including vessels and replacement cartridges, that meet specific requirements for fluid filtration processes in a variety of domestic and international end-markets. The company’s aviation division, through Velcon branded product lines, is a global leader in the filtration process for aviation fuel delivery, engineering and manufacturing products that filter, purify and removes water and contaminants from aviation fuel along the transport chain from the refinery to the aircraft. Velcon’s process division, through its Twin Filter brand, engineers, manufactures and markets equipment and replacement cartridges for the oil, liquid and air filtration markets in Europe, Asia, North America and other international markets.

