



GRUPOMEXICO

Av. Baja California #200, Mexico City 06760

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACTS:

GRUPO MÉXICO, S.A. de C.V.

Daniel Tellechea

011-525-574-8483

J. Eduardo Gonzalez

011-525-574-8422

Jerry Cooper

212-510-1810

GRUPO MÉXICO COMPLETES SALE OF ASARCO'S SPECIALTY CHEMICALS DIVISION FOR \$503 MILLION

Mexico City – January 13, 2000 - Grupo México, S.A. de C.V. announced today that it has completed the sale of the specialty chemicals division of its recently acquired subsidiary, ASARCO Incorporated, which was held through Enthone-OMI, Inc. and certain other related companies, for \$503 million plus the assumption of approximately \$9.3 million of third party debt to Cookson Group plc.

The sale reflects Grupo México's commitment to reduce new debt incurred to finance the recent acquisition of Asarco. The net proceeds will be applied to pay down the existing \$817 million of acquisition debt.

Grupo México is a diversified mining company that ranks as the world's third largest copper producer, fourth largest producer in silver and fifth largest in zinc. The company's mining operations include significant mining, smelting and refining assets in Mexico, the United States and in Peru through its subsidiary, Southern Peru Copper Corporation (NYSE:PCU). Grupo Mexico also ranks as the world's second largest company in copper ore reserves. In addition, Grupo México owns 74% and operates in partnership with Union Pacific (26%), the largest and most profitable railroad in Mexico.

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