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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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**STOKO® BlueForce™ Is First Medium-to-Heavy-Duty Hand Cleaner  
to be Awarded Green Seal™ Certification GS 41 B**

GREENSBORO, N.C. (April 1, 2009) – STOKO® Skin Care, a world leader in the away-from-home skin care/hygiene market, is pleased to offer the first Green Seal™ GS 41 B-certified medium-to-heavy-duty hand cleaner: STOKO® BlueForce™.

GS 41 B certification means that STOKO® BlueForce™ meets Green Seal™'s environmental standard for industrial hand cleaners based on its reduced health and environmental impact.

STOKO® BlueForce™ is a 100% solvent-free, industrial strength hand cleaner which contains no scrubbing particles. It has very good skin compatibility and excellent cleaning power in cases of common industrial dirt (e.g., grease, oil, mineral oil, lubricating oil, graphite and metal dust). Laboratory testing proved BlueForce™ to be significantly milder to the skin than competitive heavy-duty liquid cleansers.

“STOKO® BlueForce™ cleans effectively without damaging the skin,” stated Armand Coppotelli, Senior Technical Manager for STOKO® Skin Care. “The very good skin compatibility is achieved by the use of skin-compatible surfactants and innovative formulation technology.”

“We are excited to add BlueForce™ to our growing number of Green Seal™-certified products,” stated Ron Shuster, Product Line Director for STOKO® Skin Care, “As an ISO-registered company in 14001 and Responsible Care, Evonik Stockhausen, Inc., is deeply committed to developing and producing environmentally responsible products.”

For more information about STOKO® BlueForce™, please call (336) 335-3772 or e-mail [myra.montgomery@evonik.com](mailto:myra.montgomery@evonik.com). Please also visit our website at [www.stokoskincare.com](http://www.stokoskincare.com)

**About Green Seal™**

Green Seal is an independent, non-profit organization that uses science-based standards and the power of the marketplace to create a more sustainable world. For more information, visit [www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org).

**About STOKO® Skin Care**

Evonik Industries' leading product line, STOKO® Skin Care, is headquartered in Greensboro, North Carolina, for the North American Market. It is a leading provider of skin care/hygiene products and programs for the away-from-home market. With research and development facilities in Krefeld, Germany, and manufacturing and distribution locations around the world, the company leverages a vast international network to develop the most technologically advanced products in the industry. [www.stokoskincare.com](http://www.stokoskincare.com).

**About Evonik Industries**

Evonik Industries is the creative industrial group from Germany which operates in three business areas: Chemicals, Energy and Real Estate. Evonik is a global leader in specialty chemicals, an expert in power generation from hard coal and renewable energies, and one of the largest private residential real estate companies in Germany. Our strengths are creativity, specialization, continuous self-renewal, and reliability. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In its fiscal year 2008 about 41,000 employees generated sales of about Euro 15.9 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of more than Euro 2.2 billion.

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