



Moscow, July 23, 2010

United Capital Partners acquires a minority stake in OAO "Monocrystal"

United Capital Partners (**UCP**), a private equity group, has acquired a minority stake in OAO "Monocrystal" (**Monocrystal**), one of the world's largest manufacturers of synthetic sapphire for hi-tech applications in electronics and metallization pastes for solar cells.

Victoria Lazareva, a co-managing partner of UCP private equity, has been elected a member of the Board of Directors of Monocrystal and the chair of its Audit Committee.

Vladimir Polyakov, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Monocrystal said:

"We are pleased to welcome UCP as a shareholder and investor in Monocrystal. Today, Monocrystal is a global industry leader in the fast growing markets for the materials and components used in manufacturing of LED and solar panels. We are glad to have Victoria Lazareva join our Board of Directors and expect that her experience and active input from the point of view of a financial investor will help us make Monocrystal even more attractive for other potential investors."

Ilya Sherbovich, President and Managing Partner of UCP commented:

"The management and shareholders of Monocrystal have created a unique company. Monocrystal is a clear example of Russia's strong potential in the high technology space, and we are very pleased to be a part of this great success story. UCP will apply all its efforts to support further development of the company's business and to increase its equity value."

About Monocrystal:

Monocrystal is one of the leading global suppliers of sapphire products, metallization pastes and other advanced electronic materials for semiconductor, optical, and solar industries. Monocrystal's product portfolio includes large diameter sapphire substrates for LED and RFIC applications and lead-free screen printing pastes for silicon wafer-based solar cells. The company exports 90 percent of its products to more than 20 countries around the globe. To learn more about Monocrystal, visit www.monocrystal.com

About United Capital Partners (UCP):

United Capital Partners (**UCP**) Group of companies was founded in 2006 as an asset management platform for its clients and partners. UCP manages a number of funds investing in fast-growing private companies and in securities of publicly traded Russian companies. The private equity funds under UCP management use the strategy of achieving capital appreciation by investing in small and medium size companies with high

