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GNPGraystar Announces Merger and Fiven Partnership



SiC & More first reported on GNP Ceramics when the company formed a progressive and formidable alliance with Nanko Abrasives Industry Co in 2009. At the time, **SiC & More** commented about the strategic nature of this alliance during the Great Recession as President Rick O'Neil was positioning the company for economic recovery and growth in 2010 with new product lines such as silicon metal, ready to press silicon carbide, high surface area materials such as sinterable boron carbide and specially treated SiC powders that could be used in high solid slurries.

Having brought on new investors and recapitalized the company in recent years the company obtained the financial firepower and mandate to continue growing the business.

As a result, GNP has moved up the food chain once again as its most recent announcement includes a merger with the dynamic Graystar, LLC, creating an incredibly diverse and powerful company adding even more value to the markets they serve. Allen Drake, Graystar's General Manager, said "Our team fits seamlessly with GNP as does our business model. This merger allows us to focus on GNPGraystar offering our customer base the best total cost in the industry."

With the merger, GNPGraystar added Brian Hauer as Technical Sales Director who has 27 years of extensive experience from his time at Washington Mills and Electro Abrasives in sales and operations role. "We now have five Ceramic Engineers," he said.

But the news doesn't end there as GNPGraystar has entered into a preferred partnership with Fiven, which will further enhance its service provision to the market. GNPGraystar and Fiven will expand their cooperation in the supply of high-quality silicon carbide to North America. The goal is to achieve sustainable growth by providing solutions and services for today and tomorrow.

Betty Aasheim, Sales & Marketing Director of Fiven ASA said, "I'm looking forward to the growth this cooperation can provide. By combining the strengths of Fiven and GNPGraystar, we can offer an increased and an optimal level of services that will benefit existing and new customers in the US and Canada."

"With their quality and capacities, and our value-added services such as the ability to re-package, do secondary processing and make blends, it is a very good cooperative partnership, a sales and technical exchange," O'Neil said.

Watch for future news out of this dynamic and forward-thinking group led by Rick O'Neil and his highly capable technical team.

