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## Press Release

St. Niklausen, Switzerland, 8 April 2008 – for immediate release

### **Spirit Avert AG: Emphasis on mindset AG, manufacturer of the zero-emission hybrid vehicle**

*Following on from the increased focus of activities on mindset AG, the board of directors announces the following changes of personnel.*

Dr. Jürg Leupp, CEO of Spirit Avert, on this day celebrating his 60th birthday, steps down from his operating activities as of today. Dr. Leupp was the driving force during the important and crucial phase of restructuring the remaining activities at Nextrom. Dr. Leupp's many years of experience in the industry were instrumental in the successful tightening-up of the company structure and the creation of the necessary organizational changes for the new Spirit Avert AG. With his considerable strategic skills, Dr. Leupp will continue to be of help and advice to the company. The board of directors would like to thank Dr. Leupp for his significant leadership and commitment to the company's mission. Daniel Buchter (board of directors, mindset AG, and since 2005, board of directors, Spirit Avert AG) has been appointed to act as the new chief executive officer.

The board of directors also announces that Peter K. Bachmann (CFO and board of directors, Spirit Avert AG) has decided to focus on new challenges outside of Spirit Avert and will not seek re-election to the board of directors at the upcoming annual general meeting. Mr. Bachmann, a chartered accountant, was appointed as CFO in 2006 during the company restructuring. He concentrated on the deconsolidation and subsequent sell-off of subsidiary companies out of the former Nextrom. Mr. Bachmann will continue in his present position until his successor is named. The board thanked Mr. Bachmann for his commitment and contribution to the business during his tenure.

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The board of directors proposes Prof. Paolo Tumminelli as new board member for election at the annual general meeting of 15 May 2008. As an established brand- and communications consultant in the automotive world, Prof. Tumminelli brings an extensive experience in communications to the board. Since 2007, he has been the head of Cologne-based "Goodbrands Institute for Automotive Culture". He is the author of numerous books and specialist publications.

**About Spirit Avert AG**

Spirit Avert AG is listed on the Swiss Stock Exchange (SWX). Spirit Avert acquires major and determining shareholdings in privately-held companies (pre-IPOs) and in listed Swiss small- and mid-caps. Spirit Avert invests preferably in companies that drive the application of new technologies and concepts forward.

Spirit Avert's most important holding and simultaneously its sole industrial activity is mindset AG, which develops and markets the zero-emission hybrid-vehicle called mindset. The wholly-owned subsidiary, mindset AG, is led by Murat Günak (CEO), previously vice-president and responsible for the overall design for VW, SEAT, Skoda and Bentley at Volkswagen Group.

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For further information about mindset please visit our website [www.mindset.ch](http://www.mindset.ch).