



December 15, 2008

TO ALL ESSEX[®] MAGNET WIRE CUSTOMERS:

The Essex petrochemical surcharge was increased by \$.045 per pound on June 9, 2008 to meet extraordinary escalations in the price of oil, natural gas, electricity, chemicals, transportation, and other cost inputs.

While oil prices have dropped in the last 30 days, cost pressures for some key chemicals have continued. These are generally due to shortages in global supply of a number of discrete materials used in the formulation of magnet wire enamels.

Due to the above, the surcharge will be reduced to \$0.1300 USD per pound effective for shipments beginning on January 5, 2009.

We appreciate your understanding and support. We will closely monitor all of the energy markets, as well as continue to invest in initiatives such as Lean Sigma continuous improvement planning that allow us to offer the highest quality magnet wire in the industry while controlling costs.

Please direct any questions about this announcement to your Essex magnet wire representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip L. Gordon".

Philip L. Gordon
Director of Marketing