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## **UTEX INDUSTRIES ACQUIRES AREFCO SPECIAL PRODUCTS, LTD & AREFCO SEALS, INC.**

*Investment accelerates next phase of customer service and growth for UTEX Industries*

**HOUSTON, TX – September 30, 2011** - UTEX Industries, a leading supplier of high performance sealing products and solutions, today announced that it has acquired Arefco Seals & Arefco Special Products, a European based supplier of high performance sealing products and solutions that focuses on the Oil & Gas and various high end Industrial markets. This transaction supports UTEX' strategy to build on its strong growth momentum and invest more aggressively in supporting the evolving needs of its customer base.

“We are extremely excited to be associated with the Arefco Special Products team; they have proven themselves as a world class supplier with a highly skilled workforce in an extremely demanding market. Arefco has earned a strong reputation for service and process innovation, and, is a natural fit with our strategy to provide reliable, innovative, high-performance solutions that our customers require in critical mission applications”, commented Mike Balas, UTEX' Chief Executive Officer. “This transaction will be completely transparent to our customers while helping us to further build a leading position in product innovation, high performance, custom engineered solutions, and overall responsiveness to the unique needs of the customers and markets we serve.”

“Our partnership with Utex provides the critical resources that are needed to expand in proportion to the growing demands of our customers while maintaining our high standards of technical excellence and customer service”, commented David Robson, Arefco's U.S. President.

The transaction is effective immediately, with the current management team unchanged and continuing to provide valuable support and leadership as we begin to make significant investments in the Arefco business going forward.

### **About Utex Corporation**

Founded in 1940, UTEX Industries is a leading global manufacturer of high performance, custom engineered, sealing products & solutions with a focus in Oil & Gas, Water Treatment & Distribution, Aerospace, Medical, Food and Beverage, Chemical & Petrochemical, Power Generation, and General Industrial markets. For more information, visit the UTEX website at <http://www.utexind.com>.

### **About Arefco**

Arefco, founded in 1978, serves as one of the leading innovators in product design within the sector, pushing the boundaries of technology forward and solving the issues of an increasingly demanding industry. Arefco's primary focus has been in Oil & Gas and other safety critical markets and will continue, with the support of Utex, to be a market leader. For more information, visit the Arefco website at <http://www.arefco.co.uk>.



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