



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Susquehanna Financial Group Advises Clariant on Sale of Instruments Assets**

Bala Cynwyd, PA, March 15, 2007—Susquehanna Financial Group, LLLP (SFG) has acted as the exclusive financial advisor to Clariant Inc. (NASDAQ: CLRT), Aliso Viejo, CA, on the sale of assets in its instruments systems business.

In the transaction, Clariant sold substantially all of its assets comprising its ACIS® and Trestle® instrument systems business to Carl Zeiss MicroImaging for \$11 million in cash. Carl Zeiss will pay up to an additional \$1.5 million, contingent upon the satisfaction of certain post-closing conditions relating to intellectual property matters. In addition, the transaction contemplates that Clariant and Zeiss will each invest up to \$3 million in cash or make other in-kind contributions to pursue joint development efforts for novel markers and new menu applications for the ACIS medical diagnostics product line.

According to Peter Haabestad, the managing director in SFG's investment banking division who oversaw the sale for SFG, "This transaction should mark a critical milestone in Clariant's evolution over the past three years from an equipment sales company to a services business focused on the burgeoning market for medical diagnostics. Clariant believes this sale will facilitate its transition into higher growth, higher margin businesses and will enable it to enjoy earnings multiple expansion, thereby enhancing shareholder value."

James J. Ramp, head of investment banking for SFG, added "The challenge of the assignment went well beyond the sale of assets. Clariant wanted to maintain access to the intellectual property it was selling and find an able partner to help them access new markets. Carl Zeiss brought not only financial strength to the table, but the cooperation and technical expertise that fit Clariant's requirements."