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PRESS RELEASE

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STAEDTLER signs social charter Agreements on objectives for managers mandate compliance with social charter

Nuremberg, Germany – On Friday, 10 November 2006 STAEDTLER signed an international framework agreement with the worker's unions *IG Metall* and the *Internationalen Bund der Bau- und Holzarbeiter, BHI* (Building and Wood Workers' International – BWI), thereby underscoring the need for transparent and democratic social dialogue.

For the first time in the German writing and drafting instruments industry, compliance with internationally valid principles has been incorporated into the agreements on objectives of all managing directors of overseas subsidiaries through signing of a social charter. As such, corporate social responsibility is not just written down on paper, but is to be continually reviewed and actively monitored in business operations as well.

In the social charter, STAEDTLER speaks out against forced labour, child labour and discrimination and advocates fair wages worldwide. Recognition of workers' right to freedom of association and the right to collective wage agreements are further points of the social charter. Provision of safe and healthy working conditions for the well-being of workers as well as continuing professional training and development are guaranteed. In addition, employment terms and conditions will be defined and applicable legal working hours observed in all countries.

STAEDTLER is one of the most long established and renowned industrial companies in Germany. Despite increasing globalization, STAEDTLER's roots and founding tradition still hold great importance. This tradition obligates STAEDTLER to strong environmental and social commitment in line with ethical principles. This is also reflected in STAEDTLER's status as a not-for-profit foundation.

Represented at the signing of the international framework agreement were:
Axel Marx and Ullrich Gerhart, Managing Directors of the STAEDTLER Group
Juergen Peters, Chairman of IG Metall
Marion F. Hellmann, Deputy General Secretary, Building and Wood Workers' International BWI