

**UNITED PHOSPHORUS LIMITED ACQUIRES ADVANTA'S SEED BUSINESS FROM FOX  
PAINE & COMPANY**

Mumbai, India (February 14, 2006) United Phosphorus Limited (UPL) announced today that its subsidiary, Biowin Corporation Limited based in Mauritius, has acquired Advanta Netherlands Holdings BV, based in the Netherlands, in an all cash transaction from the US-based private equity firm, Fox Paine & Company, LLC. UPL will finance the transaction with funds raised through the recent foreign currency convertible bond (FCCB) issues and bank borrowings. YES Bank served as the exclusive financial and strategic advisor to UPL.

Advanta is a leading supplier of seeds and seed technologies to major global and regional markets, providing added value to farmers, downstream industries and consumers by combining superior genetics with essential technologies and techniques. With operations in Australia, Asia and South America, the Company's research and development consists of superior breeding programs and bioscience techniques that have driven the development of a portfolio of elite, proprietary and highly differentiated germplasm. Advanta had total sales of EUR 61 million in [FY] 2005.

Established in 1996 through the combination of Royal Vanderhave Group of the Netherlands and Zeneca Seeds of the United Kingdom, Advanta's corporate heritage extends back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century with important R & D programs in rice, maize, sunflower, sorghum and canola.

Commenting on the transaction, Mr. Jai Shroff, Executive Director of UPL, said, "The acquisition of Advanta allows UPL to jump start our entry in the high end of the seeds business where the future of agriculture growth lies. This transaction not only makes us the largest player in some segments but also gives us leadership position in many important products. At the same time, it allows us further our relationship with distributors and farmers in these markets. We welcome the Advanta employees to the UPL family of companies, and will look for a smooth, quick integration."

Mr. Kevin Schwartz, Managing Director of Fox Paine, said, "We believe the combination of Advanta and UPL will help both companies accelerate their corporate strategies for growth. This transaction successfully concludes our investment work with Advanta, which was to develop and invest in its market positions, product portfolio and technologies and ultimately find the strategic acquirers best positioned to further develop Advanta's diverse global business units. The success of this endeavor is due to the substantial efforts of many people within Advanta and Fox Paine who shared this vision."

United Phosphorus Limited (UPL) is the largest Indian agrochemical company and among the top five generic companies globally in this industry. It is engaged in research, manufacture and distribution of agrochemicals and specialty chemicals across the globe. The Company's revenue's for the last 12 months ending Dec 2005 were in excess of USD 375 mm.(Rs. 1661 Crores)

#### About UPL

Through acquisitions, strategic alliances and network of over 36 subsidiaries, UPL has built a marketing network across the globe and its international revenues account for over 70% of its total revenues. It exports to over 100 countries, with primary markets in Europe and North America.

UPL has over 2400 employees and has 10 operating plants (8 in India and 1 in UK and Argentina) all of them are ISO compliant to the highest standards of Quality, Safety, Environment and Occupational Health.