



Press Release

For immediate publication

BILT MD R.R. Vederah Ranked 18th in RISI Top 50 Power List

Mr. R. R. Vederah, Managing Director, BILT, is ranked 18th in the global pulp & paper industry's top 50 power list by RISI.

New Delhi, July 9th, 2010: The US\$ 4 bn Avantha Group, today announced that **Mr. R.R. Vederah – Managing Director, BILT** and member Avantha Management Board, has been ranked 18th in the global pulp & paper industry's top 50 power list. He has been featured in the list for two years in a row. The list is prepared and published by RISI, the definitive source for information on the global forest products industry. BILT is a flagship company of the Gautam Thapar led Avantha Group.

Mr. R.R. Vederah is responsible for BILT's top-line and bottom-line volume and growth. He has been associated with the company for over two decades and has contributed significantly to its turnaround and growth. He is also involved in the development of BILT's organisation and business strategy towards a mandate to achieve the company's aggressive growth plans. He is also the key driver of new technology and quality initiatives aimed at taking BILT into the South Asian region.

The RISI Power List is a snapshot of the paper industry's top 50 movers and shakers. The ranking is primarily based on the opinions of industry insiders and features the global pulp and paper industry's movers and shakers, including producers, suppliers, associations, NGOs and buyers. Information for the list is collected from editors, economists, engineers associated with RISI and from external resources.

About BILT

Ballarpur Industries Limited (BILT), part of the US\$ 4 billion Avantha Group, is India's largest manufacturer of writing and printing (W&P) paper. BILT's subsidiaries include Sabah Forest Industries (SFI), Malaysia's largest pulp and paper company, and BILT Tree Tech Limited (BTTL), which runs BILT's farm forestry programme in several states in India. BILT has six manufacturing units across India, which give the company geographic coverage over most of the domestic market. BILT has a dominant share of the high-end coated paper segment in India. The company accounts for over 50% of the coated wood-free paper market, an impressive 85% of the bond paper market and nearly 45% of the hi-bright Maplitho market, besides being India's largest exporter of coated paper. BILT is the first Indian paper company to feature among the global top 100.





About Avantha Group

The US \$4 bn Avantha Group is one of India's leading business conglomerates. The Group has business interests in diverse areas, including pulp and paper, power transmission and distribution equipment and services, food processing, farm forestry, chemicals, energy, infrastructure, information technology (IT) and IT-enabled services. With an impressive global footprint, the Group operates in more than 10 countries with 20,000 employees of 20 nationalities. Group companies include Crompton Greaves Limited, India's largest power equipment company, and Ballarpur Industries Limited (BILT), India's largest paper manufacturer, both listed on the Indian stock exchanges. As part of its global expansion programme, the Group has acquired a host of companies from around the world. With these acquisitions, products from the Group are not just at the apex in India but ranked amongst the best in the world in their respective categories. Across Avantha, good citizenship is a defined objective, with focused emphasis on education, community development and healthcare. Led by Chairman Mr. Gautam Thapar, the Avantha Group demonstrates strong leadership globally and emerges as a focused corporate, leveraging its knowledge, leadership and operations to add lasting value for its stakeholders and investors

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