

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Litens Automotive Group Announces Patent Infringement Injunction

WOODBIDGE, Ontario, Canada – January 24, 2006

In a determined effort to stem the increasing flow of infringing automatic belt tensioners now being produced by counterfeiters in China, Brazil, India and elsewhere, Litens Automotive Group has undertaken a program of close scrutiny of global aftermarket tensioner manufacturing, distribution and sales.

Litens has now entered the initial prosecution stage of this program. On January 12, 2006, the United States District Court, District of Nevada, held that Newsun Bearings (USA) Inc. and Sunshine-AIS Bearings Co. Ltd. had infringed a Litens design patent as result of certain Chinese-produced auto tensioners that were offered for sale by Newsun/Sunshine-AIS at the 2005 AAPEX Show in Las Vegas. The court granted a permanent injunction against Newsun-Sunshine-AIS enjoining the sale of the infringing auto tensioners.

Based upon in-house testing and analysis, Litens is also concerned that the application of inferior, reverse-engineered auto tensioner 'clones' can present significant reliability, durability and safety concerns to end users.

Litens Automotive Group is the world's leading producer and supplier of OE automatic belt tensioners for automotive accessory drive and timing drive applications. Since originating the auto tensioner for automotive accessory drive applications in 1979, Litens has maintained global industry leadership in belt tensioner design and manufacturing. Litens holds a multitude of international design and process patents for automatic belt tensioners, as well as globally registered trademarks. The company will continue to take the necessary legal actions to fully protect its global intellectual property rights.

Aftermarket automatic belt tensioners produced to Litens' OE specifications for automotive and heavy duty accessory drives and for automotive timing belt drives are exclusively available in North America through **Tendeco Sales Inc.**, Dublin, Ohio, and for all other global regions through **ATech Vertriebs GmbH**, Gelnhausen, Germany.

For more information about Litens visit [www.litens.com](http://www.litens.com)