

GRUPO VITRO

Grupo Vitro began with a small glass factory founded in Monterrey in 1906. Today it is a multinational company with major operations in the United States and other countries. Sales in 1995 were almost US \$3 billion. The company also produces plastic products and household appliances as well as industrial machinery and equipment. *Grupo Vitro* is controlled by Adrián Sada González and his brother Federico. The group includes the following companies:

- *Acero Porcelanizado*
- *Autotemplex*
- *Fabricación de Compresores*
- *Fabricación de Máquinas*
- *Fabricantes de Aparatos Domésticos*
- *Industria Alkali*
- *Materias Primas Minerales de Lampazos*
- *Materias Primas Monterrey*
- *Supermatic*
- *Viplásticos*
- *Vitro Flex*
- *Vitro Flotado*
- *Vitrocristalera*

Vitro was in the news during 1996 because of difficulties with its subsidiary Anchor Glass, based in Tampa, Florida. *Vitro* acquired this company in 1989 through a hostile takeover and most analysts agree that *Vitro* paid too much for it. *Vitro* was forced to invest an additional US \$126 million in the subsidiary in December 1995, but less than a year later, Anchor Glass filed for bankruptcy protection in the United States. In October 1996, *Vitro* announced a deal to sell Anchor Glass to Ball-Foster Glass Container Corp., the second-largest American manufacturer of glass containers.