



L'Art de la Table
1825

Press Release

June 2008, 9th

Mikasa[®] sold to Lifetime Brands Inc

Arc International, the French world leader in tableware, announces today the sale of the Mikasa[®] brand and some related assets to Lifetime Brands Inc. [Nasdaq: LCUT].

The sale of Mikasa[®] is consistent with the Group's strategic plan announced in 2007 to refocus on its core business. Following the conclusion of the Salviati[®] sale and the closure of the Mikasa[®] stores in North America, this process is now well underway.

The Group maintains a significant presence on the North American market. Supported by the manufacturing and sales network, the three business lines, BtoB, Food Service and Consumer Goods, represent a total turnover of more than \$200M.

The expertise on the oenology and Food Service markets will be further developed through the Chef & Sommelier[®] (C&S) brand, which was successfully launched at the beginning of 2008 on all of its main markets.

The Group is confident that Lifetime Brands Inc, a major tableware group in North America, will actively develop Mikasa[®].

Arc International will pay special attention to the employees through out the transition period, in accordance with its social practices and the applicable regulations in each country.

Contacts

Arc International
Sophie Moissard - Tel. +33 (0)6 62 08 03 97 – Email : sophie.moissard@arc-intl.com

Financial Dynamics France
Guillaume Foucault – Tel. +33 (0) 1 47 03 68 10 - Email : guillaume.foucault@fd.com

Arc International, l'Art de la Table* 1825

Arc International employs 15, 000 people worldwide including 9000 in France. The group, whose head office is located in Arques, in the French Pas-de-Calais region, achieved a turnover of 1.5 billion Euros in 2007. Armed with its know how in glassware, it developed globally and diversified its activities through the integration of materials other than glass. Today, it markets a full range of tableware products in more than 160 countries.

The Group covers the Consumer Goods and Food Service markets through a portfolio of brands, Luminarc®, Arcoroc®, Cristal d'Arques® Paris, Pyrex®¹ and Chef & Sommelier. For more than 40 years the Group has also been addressing professional customers – industrialists, traders, manufacturers of semi-finished and finished products, and service providers – by offering them tailor-made solutions to meet their specific requirements (for industry, advertising, premiums and customer loyalty programmes).

Arc International is present in five continents with production sites (France, Spain, USA, China, UAE), distribution subsidiaries (France, US, UK, Spain, Australia, Mexico, Brazil, Japan) and sales offices.

Finally, the Group has adopted a strategy of sustainable development in order to balance economic requirements, social responsibility and respect for the environment, and joined the U.N.'s Global Compact in 2003.

* *tableware*

¹ *Pyrex® is a trademark of Corning Inc., licensed by Arc International Cookware SAS in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa*

Lifetime Brands, Inc.

Lifetime Brands is North America's leading resource for nationally branded kitchenware, tabletop and home décor products. The Company markets its products under many of the industry's best known brands, including KitchenAid®, Farberware®, Pfaltzgraff®, Cuisinart®, Block® China and Crystal, Calvin Klein®, CasaModa®, Cuisine de France®, Gorham®, Hoffritz®, International® Silver, Joseph Abboud™, Kamenstein®, Kirk Stieff®, Melannco®, Mikasa®, Nautica®, Pedrini®, Roshco®, Sabatier®, Sasaki®, Towle® Silversmiths, Tuttle®, Wallace® and Vasconia®. Lifetime's products are distributed through most major retailers in North America.

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