



Press Release

January 25, 2008

Arc International issues a denial

As a response to today's AFP dispatch regarding job cutting at Arc International, we would like to clarify the following issues:

In 2004, we negotiated and put in place together with our trade unions a job cutting plan to match the adaptation of our production capacities. As part of this plan, we also made the commitment not to undertake mass redundancy until the end of 2008. This commitment has been confirmed and will be honoured.

We therefore deny categorically the information provided by Force Ouvrière to AFP.

A detailed negotiation schedule has been setup with our trade unions in order to assess the 2004-2008 plan and discuss the prospects of the Arques plant. The first meeting is planned on February, 5.

About Arc International, l'Art de la Table

Arc International employs 16,500 people worldwide, including some 9,500 in France. The Group, whose head office is located in Arques, in the French Pas-de-Calais region, achieved a turnover of 1.4 billion Euros in 2006. It markets tableware products in more than 160 countries, notably under the Luminarc®, Mikasa®, Cristal d'Arques® Paris, Arcoroc®, Pyrex®¹ and Studio Nova® brands.

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

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

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