



L'Art de la Table
1825

Press Release

Arques, January 28, 2009

Change in governance

On January 28, the Supervisory Board of Arc International made a unanimous decision to change the governance of the Arc International Group, the word leader in tableware.

To ensure its future and the longevity of its Arques site, the Group undertook significant structural changes starting in 2004; these were reinforced in 2007 by the implementation of a five-year plan aimed at restoring profitability.

The return to operating profitability has begun and has permitted regular growth in profits, in conformity with the Group business plan. To reinforce the recovery in the new global economic climate, our shareholders have decided to accelerate the succession plan among the Executive Committee. Guillaume de Fougères, working with the same team, will preside over the Board of Directors in the interim. An official appointment will be communicated in the coming days.

Capucine Durand, President of the Supervisory Board, states, "I would like to thank Patrick Gournay for his work with Arc International. The Group has a clear strategy, solid assets and motivated teams, and we are confident in its capacity to continue its recovery while hewing to the values that are its driving force."

About 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 tailored-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®, which is the property of Corning, INC is exploited by Arc International Cookware SAS under exclusive licence for Europe, the Middle-East and Africa.

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