



Arseus acquires activities of Polichimica (Italy)

- **This acquisition refers to the vision of Arseus to become the first European company in the Professional Health market.**
- **Arseus now has direct presence in 7 European countries.**

Nazareth (Belgium), 4 June 2007 – Arseus has reached an agreement with the Poli family for acquiring the activities of the Italian company Polichimica. Formal closing of this asset deal is scheduled for July 2007. Arseus pays approx. 7 million euro in cash for this acquisition, which fits perfectly with the activities of the Fagron division. In 2006, Polichimica achieved with 58 employees a turnover of over 10 million euro. It is expected that the annual EBITDA of Polichimica (0.7 million euro) can substantially be increased within the Fagron division of Arseus.

Fagron Group has generated 96.8 million euro turnover in 2006 and is the reference for everything related to the compounding of medicines in the local pharmacy: raw materials, ingredients, components, semi-finished goods and instruments. The basic customer target group of Fagron is individual pharmacists. However, industrial manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, nutrients and cosmetics, as well as pharmaceutical wholesalers now complement the Fagron customer base.

The Fagron label is being developed as the A-brand for the entire European market. The majority of the group activities (product development, procurement, marketing,...) is already organized on a European level.

Until this acquisition, Fagron Group was based in four countries: Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Spain. Today, this is complemented with Italy. From the existing sites, Fagron also targets a number of surrounding countries, i.e.: France, Luxembourg, Portugal and the United Kingdom. As of 2009, Fagron will also look for expansion opportunities in Central and Eastern Europe.

Arseus intends to become stepwise the European consolidator of the Professional Health sector, to which end it will implement a Buy & Build strategy. This strategy includes the acquisition of smaller companies with a complementary profile. Acquired companies will be subsequently integrated into the Arseus market platform, from which further autonomous growth will be pursued.

In 2006, Arseus generated 277 million euro turnover and has the ambition to achieve 300 million euro turnover this year.

The preparatory activities for the IPO of Arseus, scheduled for 2008, are on track.

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