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*European Leader in the distribution of high value metals, listed on NYSE Euronext – compartment C*

## PRESS RELEASE

### Merger of IMS and Jacquet Metals

The Annual General Meetings of shareholders of Jacquet Metals and IMS, meeting today, approved the merger of Jacquet Metals into IMS on the basis of 20 newly issued IMS shares for every 7 existing Jacquet Metals shares.

The completion of this merger remains dependent on the authorisation of the European Commission competition authorities, which should hand down their decision on or about 15 July 2010, and on the effective transfer of the 23.17% of IMS shares held by Jacquet Metals to JSA. Pending this completion, IMS continues to be managed by an unchanged Supervisory Board, chaired by Mr Yvon Jacob, and by an Executive Board chaired by Mr Eric Jacquet.

Once the merger is completed, JSA will hold 40.16% of the shares and 45.99% of the voting rights in IMS. On completion of the merger and in accordance with the changes in bylaws approved by the Annual General Meeting of IMS, a corporate governance structure with a Board of Directors will be introduced, comprising nine members and chaired by Mr Eric Jacquet.

The main elements of the strategy set out for the new group were presented to the Annual General Meetings of the two companies. The full presentations are available on the following websites [www.jacquetmetals.com](http://www.jacquetmetals.com) and [www.ims-group.com](http://www.ims-group.com).

***Disclaimer: this press release is a free translation of the original press release in the French language. In case of discrepancies between the two documents, the French version will prevail.***

*JACQUET Metals is distributor of stainless steels and nickel alloys, primarily for thick plate format, so-called "QUARTO". Thanks to a network of 38 subsidiaries among them 22 distribution centers, the Group serves 7,500 customers in 60 countries throughout the world operating in the sectors of water treatment, environment, energy, mechanical construction, chemistry and the agri-food industry.*



**Thierry PHILIPPE**

**Tél. +33 (0) 472 23 23 50**

[comfi@jacquetmetals.com](mailto:comfi@jacquetmetals.com)

[www.jacquetmetals.com](http://www.jacquetmetals.com) [www.jacquetfranchise.com](http://www.jacquetfranchise.com)

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