

July 20, 2010

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

IMS – JACQUET Metals merger

The taking over of IMS by Jacquet Metals, via the merger of Jacquet Metals into IMS as approved by the Annual General Meetings of both companies' shareholders on 30th June 2010, was authorised by the European Commission competition authorities on 14th July 2010. The reclassification of the 23.17% stake in IMS held by Jacquet Metals to JSA having taken place this day, the final condition precedent has been met and the IMS Executive Board today duly noted the definitive completion of the merger.

The shares issued by IMS to pay for the merger will be directly attributed to Jacquet Metals shareholders on the basis of 20 newly-issued IMS shares for 7 existing Jacquet Metals shares. Jacquet Metals shareholders who do not own the right number of shares to acquire a whole number of IMS shares, will have to personally sell or buy the number of shares required to have a number of Jacquet Metals shares that is a multiple of 7.

To that end, Jacquet Metals shares giving right to fractions of IMS shares will remain tradable on the Euronext Paris market until 21st July 2010 inclusive, after which they will be transferred to the "VRMR market" (compartment for shares delisted from the Euronext Paris regulated market) for a period of 6 months. The notice published today by the NYSE Euronext incorporates all the practical terms for the exchanging of shares for Jacquet Metals shareholders.

The new IMS shares, assimilated with existing shares, will be tradable on compartment B of the NYSE Euronext Paris from 22nd July 2010.

In accordance with the changes in bylaws approved by the IMS Annual General Meeting, a nine-member Board of Directors has been established. This Board held its first meeting this morning. During the meeting, the Board of Directors notably acknowledged the definitive completion of the merger, appointed its Chairman and CEO Mr Eric Jacquet and its Deputy CEO Mr Philippe Goczol, and defined the composition of the Appointments and Remunerations Committee and of the Audit and Risk Committee.

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.



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