

Press Release

PHOENIX and Celesio are strengthening their market position in the Netherlands together

Mannheim/Stuttgart/Maarssen, 9 December 2014. Brocacef Groep, a joint venture of the PHOENIX Group and Celesio, intends to purchase Mediq Apotheken Nederland B.V. In addition to pharmacies and the pharmaceutical wholesale distribution business, the acquisition will also involve pre-wholesale activities. The acquisition is subject to the approval of the relevant competition authorities and consultations with the Works Councils at both companies.

Through this planned purchase, Brocacef will become a leading service provider in the Dutch healthcare market. With then a total of 5,300 employees and revenue of EUR 2.1 billion, Brocacef is expanding its offering further, and in future it will be able to offer more comprehensive services along the pharmaceutical value-added chain following the purchase of pre-wholesale activities. Customers such as the pharmaceutical industry, pharmacies and hospitals, patients and health insurance companies, will benefit as Brocacef will be able to offer an even wider range of services and so will become an even more attractive partner in all sectors. This planned acquisition will allow Brocacef to ensure that professional healthcare services in the Netherlands will not only remain easily accessible, but also affordable.

Marc Owen, Chairman of the Management Board of Celesio, said: "This planned acquisition will allow us to strengthen the market position of Brocacef, where we own a holding of 45 per cent, in the long term. The activities of Brocacef and Mediq complement each other perfectly – both in terms of their geographical distribution and in terms of their offering. This acquisition will help us to gain an ideal position in the Netherlands as a link between manufacturers and patients."

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The consultations of the Works Councils of both companies have been started and the relevant union representatives have already been informed about the planned acquisition.

It has been agreed that financial details of the transaction will not be disclosed.

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About Celesio Group

Celesio is a leading international wholesale and retail company and provider of logistics and services to the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors. The proactive and preventive approach ensures that patients receive the products and support that they require for optimum care. With 39,000 employees, Celesio operates in 14 countries around the world. Every day, the group serves over 2 million customers – at about 2,200 pharmacies of its own and over 4,300 participants in brand partnership schemes. With around 130 wholesale branches, Celesio supplies 65,000 pharmacies and hospitals every day with up to 130,000 pharmaceutical products. The services benefit a patient pool of about 15 million per day.

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