



Royal Wessanen nv

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press release

Amsterdam, 5 November 2013

Wessanen CEO Piet Hein Merckens to step down

Wessanen is announcing that Piet Hein Merckens will not be nominated for a second term as CEO and member of the Executive Board. He will remain acting CEO until a successor has been appointed. The Supervisory Board of Wessanen is commencing its search for a successor today.

In light of the pending reappointment in April 2014 of Mr Merckens, the Supervisory Board has concluded that a change in leadership would be appropriate and therefore has decided not to nominate Mr Merckens for a second term.

Mr Frans Koffrie, Chairman of the Supervisory Board: "After changing its course in 2009, Wessanen has made progress in various areas, including central sourcing, brand building and activation. Especially the European branded business and IZICO have seen marked improvement. On behalf of all members of the Supervisory Board, I would like to thank Piet Hein Merckens for his valuable contributions during this tenure."

Mr Merckens, who has been CEO and member of the Executive Board since 1 June 2010: "It is with great passion and energy that I have contributed to the transformation of Wessanen. We have realized a positive development within our European core businesses as well as for our IZICO frozen snacks business. The radical but necessary transformational program "Wessanen 2015" was successfully launched and is already delivering results, which would be unimaginable without the contributions and commitment of over 1,900 dedicated Wessanen employees. Wessanen has a strong fundament for further future growth."

About Wessanen

Royal Wessanen is a leading company in the European organic and natural food market. In 2012, it generated revenue of €711 million, employing 2,064 on average. Operating mainly in France, the Benelux, UK and Germany, we manage and develop our brands and products in the grocery and health food channels. Our vision is to make our organic brands most desired in Europe. Our brands - such as Allos, Alter Eco, Bjorg, Bonneterre, Clipper, Kallo, de Rit, Tartex, Whole Earth and Zonnatura - are pioneering brands in the organic food markets.



Next to our leading position in organic food businesses, we also produce and market branded (Beckers, Bicky) and private label frozen snack products in the Benelux (IZICO) and fruit drinks (Little Hug) and cocktail mixers (Daily's) in the US (ABC).

For more information

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