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Regulated information

Sale by GBL of 2.3% of the share capital of Pernod Ricard in the context of its dynamic portfolio value optimization and increase of its financial flexibility

GBL has launched the sale of 6.2 million Pernod Ricard shares

GBL (Groupe Bruxelles Lambert) has launched today the sale of a maximum of 6.2 million Pernod Ricard shares, representing approximately 2.3% of the share capital of the company, through an institutional private placement by way of an accelerated bookbuilding limited to institutional investors.

Albert Frère (CEO), Ian Gallienne and Gérard Lamarche (Managing Directors) of GBL, commented :

"Following the successful sale of GBL's stake in Arkema, this transaction forms part of the dynamic value optimization of its portfolio and increase of its financial flexibility.

Following the transaction, GBL will retain 7.5% of the share capital of Pernod Ricard. GBL remains committed in the long-term to support the development of Pernod Ricard, and reaffirms its trust in the teams led by Mr Patrick Ricard, Chairman of the Board, and Mr Pierre Pringuet, Chief Executive Officer. Pernod Ricard is today one of the global leaders of the Wines and Spirits sector and is committed to an exemplary high value-generating growth strategy."

The change in GBL's stake is not expected to affect its representation on the Board of Directors of Pernod Ricard. In the context of this market transaction, GBL entered into a lock-up undertaking with the banks managing the placement relating to its remaining stake in Pernod Ricard for a minimum period of 90 calendar days.

Upon completion of the placement, GBL will communicate the results together with the financial implications of the sale.

Pernod Ricard is the world's co-leader in wines and spirits with consolidated sales of EUR 7,643 million in 2010/11. Created by the merger between Pernod and Ricard in 1975, the Groupe has undergone sustained development, based on both organic growth and acquisitions: Seagram (2001), Allied Domecq (2005) and Vin&Spirit (2008). Pernod Ricard is listed on the regulated market of NYSE Euronext Paris and is part of the CAC 40 index.

GBL is a holding company listed since 1956 whose shares are admitted for trading on the regulated market of NYSE Euronext Brussels.

This press release does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation to buy any securities, and the offer of Pernod Ricard shares by GBL does not constitute a public offering.

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Any investment decision to buy shares in Pernod Ricard must be made solely on the basis of publicly available information regarding Pernod Ricard. Such information is not the responsibility of GBL.

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