



FEDRUS
International

Press release

The Belgian group Fedrus International starts exclusive negotiations with Umicore for the takeover of its building material operations

Gentbrugge, 23 May 2017 - Fedrus International, one of the main players in the distribution of roofing and façade materials, is entering exclusive negotiations with Umicore, with a view to taking over its building materials company VMZINC. This company is present on four continents, generates a turnover of over €350 million and employs 950 people.

Meeting a market need

Fedrus International, better known in the sector under the names I.R.S-Btech, Apok and Laude, distributes specialised materials for roofing and façade works. The group, which is 67.5% owned by the Vandecruys-Steenbrugge family, with the remaining part owned by Sofindev, ING Corporate Investments and the management, distributes top brands in roof rubber (EPDM), roof waterproofing and façade building materials for the European market.

‘The quest for greater sustainability is fuelling the demand for materials and applications with high added value’ notes Mark Vandecruys, main shareholder of Fedrus International. ‘Not only do we deliver quality materials, but we also go a step further by sharing our technical expertise with professionals via the 4,000 training courses that we give them each year. We also found this strategy and the philosophy of transferring know-how to our close partners at VMZINC.’

VMZINC is the biggest manufacturer and supplier of zinc applications for the building industry in Europe, North America and Australia and in several Asian countries. VMZINC operates in four segments: roofing, façades, rainwater systems and applications for interiors and ornaments. VMZINC is present in 22 countries, has 7 production sites and employs 950 people.

Aiming for growth

‘Our group aims to develop further as the reference for the roofing and façade professional’ adds Mark Vandecruys. ‘This vertical integration would give our company a unique opportunity to serve clients even better.’

With this takeover, Fedrus International would meet its previously announced intention to increase internationalisation more quickly. By combining the different activities, Fedrus International could raise its current turnover of €230 million to more than € 600 million, with a workforce of over 1,500 people.



FEDRUS International

The proposed offer is subject to an information process and a consultation of VMZINC's social partners.

Press contact: Nathalie van Ypersele - Partner at akkanto - +32.(0) 478.20.10.62

The family business Fedrus International is an important player for specialist roof and façade materials. The group has 3 businesses: I.R.S-Btech, which promotes and distributes EPDM and other roof waterproofing systems and APOK, which distributes roofing and façade materials. The third business is Laude, which specialises in façade cladding in France. By constantly striving for quality and with a strong will to keep innovating, the group has built up unique experience and know-how, enabling the three companies to become market leaders in their field. The family business achieves a turnover of about €230 million and employs 475 people across 40 sites. www.fedrusinternational.com
