



PRESS RELEASE
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MANAGEMENT PICANOL GROUP CHANGES

As previously announced, the capital increase of Picanol NV was successfully completed on 9 July 2009. This was an important step in ensuring the continuity of the group and the further implementation of the strategic plan.

Also the shareholder structure has changed as a result of the capital increase. Next to this capital increase and in consultation with the key shareholders, the Board of Directors has made changes, both at the level of the Board of Directors and at the top management of the group.

Within the Board of Directors, Mr. Stefaan Haspeslagh has resigned as director. The Board of Directors wants to thank Mr. Stefaan Haspeslagh for his useful contribution in ensuring the position and continuity of the Picanol Group. He is replaced by co-optation by Mr. Luc Tack, who becomes director.

Mr. Chris Dewulf, in line with his express wish to retire as executive director on his sixtieth birthday, has resigned as managing director on 9 July 2009. He will, however, remain member of the Board of Directors of Picanol NV, and he will continue to support the management as advising director during a transitional period until the end of 2009. The Board of Directors has appointed Mr. Luc Tack as managing director with immediate effect.

Given that Mr. Luc Van Nevel has made known his intention to resign from his position as Chairman at the General Meeting of Shareholders in 2010, the Board of Directors intends to appoint Mr. Chris Dewulf from that time as Chairman.

The new managing director will further develop the strategic direction outlined by the group. Mr. Luc Tack is director of Symphony Mills, Oostrotex and Begoos.

DISCLOSURE OF THE RECEIVED NOTIFICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF 2 MAY 2007

Transparency legislation

In accordance with the stipulations of the Act of 2 May 2007 concerning the disclosure of significant participations in listed companies, the Picanol Group has received on 9 July 2009 notification from the following shareholders regarding the status as of 9 July 2009:

	<i>Number of voting rights</i>	<i>% voting rights</i>
▪ Oostrotex	10,608,278	59.93%
▪ Symphony Mills NV	1,485,024	8.39%
▪ Stichting Administratiekantoor Picanol	3,321,461	18.77%
TOTAL	15,414,763	87.09%

Oostrotex NV is controlled by Mr. Luc Tack. Mr. Luc Tack controls Symphony Mills NV, that together with Sofines BV and Pasma NV (both are controlled by Mr. Patrick Steverlynck) jointly controls STAK Picanol.

The acquisition of voting securities, such as those listed under section three, relate to an acquisition of Picanol NV shares by Oostrotex NV, as part of the subscription to the capital increase with preferential subscription rights of Picanol NV, as decided by the General Meeting of Picanol NV, and which resulted in a transgression of the threshold on the part of Oostrotex NV. As in accordance with the stipulations of the Act of 2 May 2007 concerning the disclosure of significant participations in listed companies, the participations on the part of the controlling natural person are combined with the participations of companies controlled by that person. In this view, the participations of Mr. Luc Tack in the companies controlled by him should be combined for the calculation of the voting rights.

The original notification of shareholding is available on the corporate website www.picanolgroup.com in the section Investor Relations/Shareholders Structure.

About the Picanol Group

In recent decades, the Picanol Group has evolved from a traditional weaving machine builder to a worldwide supplier of total solutions for the textile industry and other sectors.

- **Weaving Solutions** (Picanol) develops, manufactures and sells high-tech weaving machines based on air (airjet) or rapier technology (rapier). It supplies weaving machines to weaving mills worldwide, and also offers its customers such products and services as training, upgrade kits, spare parts and service contracts. Picanol also markets accessories via GTP Global Textile Partner, Steel Heddle, Burcklé and Te Strake Textile. For more than seventy years, Picanol has played a pioneering role in the industry worldwide, and is one of the current world leaders in weaving machine production.

- **Manufacturing** comprises all foundry activities (Proferro) and the group's machining activities. The Manufacturing ambition is to offer the customer engineered casting solutions for medium-sized series in a value-driven long-term partnership.

- **Mechatronics** specializes in the design, development, manufacturing and support of technological components, services and mechatronical system solutions for original equipment manufacturers in various industries through the PsiControl Mechatronics and Melotte companies. The Mechatronics business pillar will be further expanded in order to develop new activities, as well as to offer integrated technological solutions to customers in various industries.

In addition to the head office in Ieper (Belgium), the Picanol Group has production facilities in Asia, Europe and the United States, linked to its own worldwide sales and service network. In 2008, the Picanol Group achieved a consolidated turnover of 282.62 million euros. The Picanol Group employs 2,170 employees worldwide and has been listed on Euronext Brussels (PIC).

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This press release is also available on the Picanol Group's corporate website: www.picanolgroup.com