

Newsletter January 2000

Press Release

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Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
January 17, 2000

Embargo until 17 January 2000 - 12h00

IBA strengthens its management structure and Board of Directors

Jean-Claude Delobel is joining the Group's management. Jean Stephenne and Peter Vermeeren have agreed to join the Board of Directors as independent board members.

Following very rapid growth which reached a climax during 1999 when the company more than quadrupled its turnover and established an international Group with a presence in 14 countries, IBA now wishes to strengthen its management team in order to continue growth.

Jean-Claude Delobel, Chief Executive of the Cockerill Sambre Group, has agreed to join IBA to take over operational management of the Group. Pierre Mottet is very pleased: *"I am very glad that Jean-Claude Delobel is joining us. His experience at both Baxter and Cockerill Sambre will be of great value to us and it will be a major element in continuing our growth. We firmly believe in teamwork. With Jean-Claude, we shall be able to widen our field of excellence while capitalizing on our respective strengths: maintaining the Group's technological leadership with Yves Jongen, financing with Eric de Lamotte and global and commercial strategy in my case. Jean-Claude will be contributing recognized expertise in managing major groups and this is something which we will increasingly need. He will be the leader for all aspects of the Group's operational management and he will work on a fully integrated basis with the other members of the Board of Directors."*

Jean-Claude Delobel also said that he was very happy with this decision: *"IBA's recent growth has been one of the most remarkable examples of growth in Belgium and the prospects in the various markets involved are exciting. Realizing their full potential is a very attractive challenge, and my previous experience has fully prepared me for this. I believe that my experience in optimizing major structures in an international environment will complement the experience acquired by the IBA managers in other fields."*

The co-optation of Jean-Claude Delobel as Managing Director of IBA will be presented to the Board of Directors on 9 February. He will join the company on 15 March 2000.

In addition, in the context of the new Articles of Association aimed at bringing the company into even closer alignment with the principles of Corporate Governance, particularly on the basis of independent board members, suitable persons have been approached and they have agreed to serve in this capacity on the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors has decided that it will co-opt them at the Board's first meeting in 2000 pending presentation of their names to the next General Meeting. They are Jean Stephenne, Chief Executive of SmithKline Beecham Biologicals SA Belgium and Peter Vermeeren who was previously Manager of Mallinckrodt Medical, Saint Louis (USA) - a leading company in the field of radiopharmaceuticals - and who was later European Manager of the US company ADAC, a leader in the field of nuclear medicine and radiotherapy software.

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Further information on IBA is available on the World Wide Web at the following address:
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