



## **IRE and IBA have finalized with success the acquisition of Schering AG's European FDG and CIS bio international Radiopharmaceutical businesses**

**Embargo until 5:40 pm (Belgian time) – May 5, 2006**

**Fleurus and Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, May 5, 2006** – Following the Press release of February 2006, IRE (Institut National des Radioéléments, based in Fleurus, Belgium) together with IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.: Reuters IOBAAt.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB) confirmed today that the consortium they formed has finalized with success the acquisition of Schering AG's European FDG and CIS bio international radiopharmaceutical business. The transaction includes CIS US and Japan operations.

With this acquisition, IRE owns 80.1% share and IBA owns 19.9% share in CIS bio International. In addition, IBA now owns Schering AG's European FDG business (Italy, Germany, UK and Spain) and join forces with CIS bio for distribution in Europe.

### **About CIS bio International**

CIS bio International offers a comprehensive range of diagnostic and therapeutic products for detection, treatment and monitoring in major medical fields (oncology, cardiology, rheumatology and endocrinology). It has about 750 employees and generated sales of approximately EUR 120 million in 2005.

### **About IRE**

IRE, a public utility foundation headquartered in Fleurus, Belgium, has the mission to promote the use of radioisotopes and to produce those required by Nuclear Medicine, together with the development of activities dedicated to the protection of environment and to the health of the population. IRE is a world leader for producing fission radioelements for medical application (in particular Mo/Tc<sup>99m</sup> and I<sup>131</sup> used in 80 % of medical protocols) and is exporting the largest part of its production. Through this acquisition, IRE's position in the radiopharmaceutical field will be significantly improved and Belgian nuclear medicine will benefit of it.

This evolution will undeniably have also positive impact on the SCK/CEN, in the frame of its research activities and through a more intensive use of the irradiation capacity of BR2 reactor.

Furthermore, partnership with a lot of institutions involved in research for nuclear medicine will be possible and IRE capacity to develop further projects of new productions will be reinforced.

### **About IBA**

IBA delivers solutions of a unique precision in the fields of **cancer diagnosis and therapy**. The company also offers sterilization and ionization solutions to improve the hygiene and safety of everyday life. IBA is listed on the pan-European stock exchange EURONEXT, is integrated into the NextEconomy market segment and belongs to BelSmall index. Website : <http://www.iba-worldwide.com>.



One of IBA key fields of activity is FDG distribution for PET and molecular imaging. PET (Positron Emission Tomography) is a unique, state-of-the-art technique used to diagnose cancer at a very early stage with unmatched precision and to follow up the effects of treatment. It is also increasingly used to monitor patients with neurological disorders and heart disease. It is most commonly done by injecting to the patient a dose of radiolabelled FDG (fluorodeoxyglucose) and then using a PET Scanner to produce a 3D digital image from the energy emitted by the FDG that concentrated preferably in cancer cells. In this way, PET Scans give a measure of the metabolic human cell activity.

### **Contact**

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