



IBA halts negotiations with a financial consortium regarding the transfer of a majority holding in Bioassays.

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, 17 January 2011 – IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.) announces that it has not reached an agreement with the financial consortium with which it was holding negotiations regarding the handover of a 60% holding in the Bioassays business.

"We have decided to call a halt to negotiations following the demands made by the financial consortium to renegotiate the agreed terms. These attempts were without foundation and, following the crisis of confidence that this has generated, we found ourselves unable to envisage a future management of the business in partnership," said Pierre Mottet, CEO of IBA. He went on to say that these negotiations were initiated by a spontaneous offer and were not dictated by any overriding need on the part of IBA to monetize this division. On the contrary, 2010 was a particularly good year for IBA in terms of Proton Therapy, and a great deal of new business is still in the pipeline. The company is in a position to consider its financial needs calmly, including for the development of new products for its molecular imaging business.

Further to this process, including extensive "due diligence", IBA management has reinforced its conviction that the business is worth more than the amount that the consortium attempted to renegotiate.

For the time being, the Bioassay business therefore resumes its position within the IBA group. In the short term, the various scenarios available to the group will be re-assessed. If it should be the case that the best option remains an alliance with an external partner, an open process will be initiated at the appropriate juncture.

As a reminder, the Bioassays division of IBA works in the in vitro diagnosis and in vitro screening fields for the pharmaceutical and biotech industries, using its HTRF® technology.

About IBA

IBA (<http://www.iba-worldwide.com>) develops and sells cutting-edge technologies, pharmaceutical products and tailor-made solutions in the field of healthcare, with an emphasis on cancer diagnosis and therapy.

With its scientific expertise, IBA also works in the fields of sterilisation and ionisation. *IBA is listed on the pan-European stock exchange and is included in the BelMid index. IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB).*

Contact

IBA

Jean-Marc Bothy
Chief Financial Officer
Tel.: +32 10 47 58 90

InvestorRelations@iba-group.com