

**PRESS RELEASE**

**15 SEPTEMBER 2006**

**ASPI EUROZONE® INDEX COMPONENTS**

**ANNUAL REVIEW**

The ASPI Eurozone® index selects the 120 best rated companies in the Eurozone on the basis of VIGEO GROUP's CSR ratings and in accordance with the ASPI Eurozone® Guidelines. At each quarterly and annual review, the ASPI Committee reviews the list of ASPI Eurozone® components.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2006, the ASPI Committee conducted the annual review of the ASPI Eurozone® index. It withdrawn from the ASPI Eurozone® index the shares of companies that are no longer among the 140 companies best rated by VIGEO GROUP and companies that were withdrawn from the Dow Jones Euro STOXX<sup>SM</sup> index following its quarterly review. In order to obtain a total number of components of 120, the ASPI Committee subsequently selected, in the ASPI Eurozone® index and on the basis of their VIGEO GROUP ratings, additional shares.

The changes to the ASPI Eurozone® component list will be implemented after the closing hour on Friday 15 September 2006, and become effective on the next trading day.

**WITHDRAWALS:** HEIDELBERGER DRUCKMASCHIN (DE, Mechanical Components & Equipment); GETRONICS (NL, Software and IT Services); AIR LIQUIDE (FR, Chemicals); IMERYS (FR, Building materials) and SCHERING (DE, Pharmaceuticals and biotechnology).

Withdrawal of Imerys

Imerys demonstrated a weaker performance in human rights due to a lack of reporting and existing controversies raised by a union in the US. The lack of detailed public commitments towards customers & suppliers issues and a mixed environmental performance also accounted for reducing its performance on these domains.

Withdrawal of Schering

The lack of recent information on access to medicine and environmental performance indicators combined with the absence of commitment on labour rights and a weak management of restructurings and HSE challenges mainly account for Schering's lower ratings.

Withdrawal of Getronics

This company's environmental, social and governance performance, compared to that of the Euro DJ Stoxx companies, newly places it below the 120 most engaged companies which compose the ASPI Index, thus leading to its withdrawal from the index.

#### Withdrawal of Heidelberger Druckmaschin

This company's environmental, social and governance performance, compared to that of the Euro DJ Stoxx companies, newly places it below the 120 most engaged companies which compose the ASPI Index, thus leading to its withdrawal from the index.

#### Withdrawal of Air Liquide

This company's environmental, social and governance performance, compared to that of the Euro DJ Stoxx companies, newly places it below the 120 most engaged companies which compose the ASPI Index, thus leading to its withdrawal from the index.

**ADDITIONS:** FRANCE TELECOM (FR, Telecommunications); ROYAL NUMICO (NL, Food); KBC GROUP (BE, Banks); Gaz de France (FR, Electric & Gas utilities); HEINEKEN (NL, Beverage) and COSMOTE MOBILE (GR, Telecommunications).

#### Addition of France Telecom

France Telecom's environmental management has shown the strongest progress. The Group's historical culture of social dialogue enables it to conduct collective bargaining in an unfavorable restructuring context, pressured by the sensitive issue of civil servants. Its efforts to promote access to communications are structured and far-reaching.

#### Addition of Royal Numico

Royal Numico performs well in Business Behaviour and Community involvement which are considered essential issues for the Food sector. Transparent relations with customers and suppliers are one of its strongest points and it has recognized the obesity as one of its key priorities. Moreover, Numico is recognised as a company with a solid corporate governance system.

#### Addition of KBC

KBC is a good performer in most CSR fields. Social dialogue is well-established and restructurings were handled in a responsible manner. KBC is one of the major players in the Belgian SRI market and has developed policies to avoid investments in controversial weapons.

#### Addition of Gaz de France

Gaz de France performs well on the promotion of labour relations, health & safety, power plant efficiency, management of greenhouse gases, and relationships with customers. In 2005, Gaz de France set the target to reach 10% of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2010.

#### Addition of Heineken

In a sector with weak environmental awareness, Heineken's performance on environment is above average. Heineken addresses comprehensively the most relevant potential impacts: energy and water consumption and CO2 emissions. It demonstrates a strong performance record for energy use and related emissions.

#### Addition of Cosmote Mobile

Cosmote's engagement in CSR management has significantly progressed in the last years. Previously inactive in the environmental, the company has since implemented awareness campaigns on radio frequency emissions, energy efficiency, waste and mobile handsets recycling. Human resources management is strong on H&S and training, supported by quantitative data disclosure. Cosmote is continuously active in making its products accessible to people with disabilities.

## The ASPI index composition

Available on Friday 15 September, after the closing hour, [www.vigeo.com/site.php?rub=59&lang=fr](http://www.vigeo.com/site.php?rub=59&lang=fr)

Learn more about the ASPI Eurozone® Guidelines at [www.vigeo.com/site.php?rub=60&lang=en](http://www.vigeo.com/site.php?rub=60&lang=en)

## About Vigeo Group

Vigeo Group is the leading European Corporate Social Responsibility Ratings agency. It measures companies' commitment to the goals of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and identifies social, environmental and governance risk factors.

Vigeo Group provides two services:

- analysis and company ratings for investors and asset managers
- audits in social responsibility for companies and local authorities

Vigeo Group teams represent:

- 62 employees with multidisciplinary expertise
- 13 nationalities
- 3 locations: Paris, Brussels, Casablanca

Annual Report 2005 available at [www.vigeogroup.com/img/AR2005-EN.pdf](http://www.vigeogroup.com/img/AR2005-EN.pdf)