

- All resolutions passed
- Dividend of €1.50 per share maintained
- Comments on the current financial year

**Paris-La Défense, 28 April 2010:** The annual general meeting of Vicat (NYSE Euronext Paris: FR0000031775 – VCT) was held today.

All resolutions were passed with a large majority, including the resolution to maintain the dividend of €1.50 per share.

The Group discussed the recent transaction to take control of Indian cement producer Bharathi Cement. After setting up a joint venture with Sagar Cements Limited in the state of Karnataka in June 2008, Vicat increases its presence in Southern India. Cement consumption in this region is growing rapidly and accounts for around 40% of the Indian cement market as a whole.

As regards the outlook for 2010, the Group confirmed the guidance given when it reported 2009 results.

2010 should be a transitional year. Emerging-market countries should continue to generate strong momentum, whereas the environment is likely to remain tough in certain mature markets. Movements in selling prices will continue to remain very contrasted between geographical zones. First-half performance will be affected by the severe weather conditions seen at the start of the year. The second half should bring a gradual improvement in business levels in certain mature markets, particularly France and the USA.

Vicat is maintaining its productivity gains efforts and its fixed costs control policy. The Group is set to fully benefit from its Performance plans, and in particular from :

- the improved performance generated by its new industrial facilities
- lower fuel prices and increased use of alternative fuels
- the end of external purchases of clinker and cement in Switzerland and Senegal following capacity increases that were completed in 2009.

Finally, the reduction in capital expenditure after the end of the Performance 2010 plan should result in increased free cash flow relative to 2009.



### VICAT INVESTOR RELATIONS

STÉPHANE BISSEUIL
TEL: +33 (0)1 58 86 86 13
s.bisseuil@vicat.fr

### VICAT PRESS RELATIONS

CLOTILDE HUET
CATHERINE BACHELOT-FACCENDINI
TÉL. +33 (0)1 58 86 86 26
clotide.huet@tbwa-corporate.com
catherine.bachelot-faccendini@tbwa-corporate.com

### **HEAD OFFICE:**

TOUR MANHATTAN 6 PLACE DE L'IRIS F-92095 PARIS - LA DEFENSE CEDEX TEL: +33 (0)1 58 86 86 86 FAX: +33 (0)1 58 86 87 84

A FRENCH REGISTERED COMPANY WITH SHARE CAPITAL OF €179,600,000
EEC IDENTIFICATION: FR 92 - 057 505 539
RCS NANTERRE 057 505 539

# PRESS RELEASE



### Disclaimer:

This press release may contain forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements do not constitute forecasts regarding results or any other performance indicator, but rather trends or targets. These statements are by their nature subject to risks and uncertainties as described in the Company's annual report available on its website (www.vicat.fr). These statements do not reflect the future performance of the Company, which may differ significantly. The Company does not undertake to provide updates of these statements.

Further information about Vicat is available from its website (www.vicat.fr).

## **ABOUT VICAT**

The Vicat Group has **nearly 6,700 employees** working in three core divisions, Cement, Concrete & Aggregates and Other Products & Services, which generated **consolidated sales of €1,896 million** in 2009.

The Group **operates in eleven countries:** France, Switzerland, Italy, the United States, Turkey, Egypt, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Kazakhstan and India. Nearly 56% of sales are generated outside France.

The Vicat Group is the heir to an industrial tradition dating back to 1817, when Louis Vicat invented artificial cement. Founded in 1853, the Vicat Group now operates three core lines of business: Cement, Ready-Mixed Concretes and Aggregates, as well as related activities.