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Air Liquide plans sale of its stake in Anios

press release

Contacts:

Corporate Communications

Anne Bardot
+ 33 (0)1 40 62 53 34
Anette Rey
+ 33 (0)1 40 62 51 31

Investor Relations

Virginia Jeanson
+33 (0) 1 40 62 57 37
Annie Fournier
+33 (0) 1 40 62 57 18

Air Liquide Healthcare

Air Liquide Healthcare supplies **medical gases, home healthcare services, hygiene products, medical equipment and specialty ingredients.**

In 2012, it served **over 7,500 hospitals and 1 million patients** at home throughout the world.

The Group's Healthcare business reached **€ 2,482 million in revenues in 2012**, with the support of its **10 000 employees**.

Schülke

Schülke is a **hygiene specialist**, developing and selling **disinfectant, antiseptic and cleaning products**, with a particular focus on hospitals and doctor's offices, and industrial **preservatives**. Founded in Germany in 1889, the company was acquired by Air Liquide in 1996.

Schülke has approximately **700 employees** and its revenues totaled close to **200 million euros in 2012**, **60% generated abroad**.

Air Liquide announces it plans to sell its stake in Laboratoires Anios, a company that specializes in disinfectant and antiseptic products, in order to refocus the development of its hygiene business on Schülke, a company it wholly owns.

In connection with this planned sale, Air Liquide also indicates that it has received a firm offer from a consortium composed of the Letartre family, founder of Laboratoires Anios and currently a minority shareholder, and the investment firm Ardian (formerly AXA Private Equity).

Air Liquide will respond to this offer at the end of the instruction and consultation process with relevant trade union representatives of personnel affected by the sale. In addition, the transaction will be subject to the approval of the French competition authority.

Founded in 1898, Laboratoires Anios has a staff of about 450 employees and generated revenues of around 180 million euros in 2012.

***Air Liquide is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment**, and is present in **80 countries with close to 50,000 employees**. Oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen and rare gases have been at the core of Air Liquide's activities since its creation in 1902. Using these molecules, Air Liquide continuously reinvents its business, anticipating the needs of current and future markets. The Group innovates for the good of society while delivering profitable growth and consistent performance.*

***Innovative technologies** that curb polluting emissions, lower industry's energy use, recover and reuse natural resources or develop the energies of tomorrow, such as hydrogen, biofuels or photovoltaic energy... Oxygen for hospitals, home healthcare, fighting nosocomial infections... Air Liquide combines many products and technologies to develop valuable applications and services not only for its customers but also for society.*

***A partner for the long term**, Air Liquide relies on employee commitment, customer trust and shareholder support to pursue its vision of sustainable, competitive growth. The **diversity** of Air Liquide's teams, businesses, markets and geographic presence provides a solid and sustainable base for its development and strengthens its ability to push back its own limits, conquer new territories and build its future.*

***Air Liquide explores the best that air can offer to preserve life, staying true to its Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainable development approach**. In 2012, the Group's revenues amounted to **€ 15.3 billion** of which 82% were generated outside France. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris Euronext stock exchange (compartment A) and is a member of the CAC 40 and Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50 indexes.*

www.airliquide.com

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