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Touax accelerates the strategic repositioning of its river barges business

For several months, the Touax group River Barges division has been developing its leasing and sales activities of river transport equipment, which represent its core business, in the main European basins. At the same time, the division continues to increase its business in North and South America. The utilization rate of barges intended for leasing is 90%.

Emmanuel Cheremetinski, Managing Director of the River Barges division, is enthusiastic about this strategic repositioning which should help to optimize the Group's business mix, and notes that *"there is high demand for river transport equipment throughout the world in view of the prospects for growth in this type of transport"*.

In this connection, Touax announces that it has signed a sales agreement with LAFARGE GRANULATS for seven barges for delivery in spring 2012. Raphaël Walewski, Managing Partner of Touax, is very pleased *"with this agreement, which shows the extent of the services that the Group is able to offer to market players"*.

Touax is a global player in the river transport sector and the Group offers numerous services to manufacturers and transport operators.

The TOUAX Group provides its operational leasing services to a global customer base, both for its own account and on behalf of investors. TOUAX is the European leader in shipping containers and river barges, and no. 2 in modular buildings and freight railcars (intermodal railcars). TOUAX is well positioned to take advantage of the rapid growth in corporate outsourcing of nonstrategic assets and offers efficient and flexible leasing solutions to more than 5,000 customers daily.

TOUAX is listed in Paris on NYSE EURONEXT – Euronext Paris Compartment B (Code ISIN FR0000033003) and on the CAC® Small and CAC® Mid & Small indexes.

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