

## **GFI INFORMATIQUE: Exclusive negotiations for a majority stake in Cognitis Group**

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### Gfi Informatique broadens its expertise through high value-added offers while consolidating its market shares in the financial sector

*Saint-Ouen (France), 2 October 2012 – Gfi Informatique announces that it is currently engaged in exclusive negotiations to take a majority stake in Cognitis Group's capital.*

Founded in 1994, Cognitis Group posted sales of €45 million in 2011. The Group leverages considerable business and technical expertise to transform and optimise the information systems of major corporations in the financial sector. It has developed acknowledged expertise in testing, business intelligence and applications migration and maintains teams of very high-level business analyst consultants. With a staff of nearly 500 consultants, Cognitis covers the full range of retail banking, market finance (asset management, financial markets), insurance, pension and social welfare activities.

Cognitis Group is chaired by its CEO and founder Jean-Pierre Legendre, who will continue in his functions. This acquisition would enable Gfi Informatique to consolidate its market share in the financial sector, especially in corporate and investment banking, where it has few operations. This ascent in the value chain will also boost Gfi's growth in a sector where consolidation is a major challenge for customers. It will also increase target profitability in this highly competitive sector.

Gfi would acquire the controlling stake of approximately 65% via a €4.5 million capital increase.

This operation hinges on a number of conditions precedent, including consultations with staff representative bodies. The transaction is likely to be completed early in the fourth quarter.

**Next key date:** 25 October 2012, publication of the Group's Q3 sales.

#### **Note**

*Except for historical facts, the elements contained in this press release are forecasts. Given the difficulties inherent in anticipating results, these forecasts do not represent guarantees. Actual results may differ considerably from explicit or implicit forecasts.*

## **About Gfi Informatique**

*A leading European player for value-added IT services and software, Gfi Informatique has defined a differentiating strategic positioning between global operators and niche players. Drawing on its multidisciplinary profile, the Group provides its customers with a unique combination of hands-on services, sector-based organisation and quality industrial solutions. With a workforce of some 8,700 employees, the Group posted 2011 sales of €618 million.*

*Gfi Informatique is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris stock exchange (compartment B), ISIN: FR0004038099.*

**For more details:** [www.gfi.fr](http://www.gfi.fr)

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