

PRESS RELEASE

Negotiations with creditors are continuing in the context of the insolvency protection proceedings of the companies Groupe Vial and Vial Holding

Trading in the shares and OCEANE bonds will remain suspended until the insolvency protection plans are finalised

La Seyne-sur-Mer, 23 March 2011

The steps involved in the insolvency protection proceedings concerning the companies Groupe Vial and Vial Holding have resulted in the length of the proceedings being extended by about two months, namely until about the first half of June 2011. During this period, trading in the shares and OCEANE bonds will remain suspended.

The administrators appointed in the context of the proceedings have started the first stage of the proceedings by convening a meeting of the Committee of Principal Suppliers of Goods and Services of the company Groupe Vial, in Toulon, at 2.30 p.m. on 28 March 2011.

Thereafter, the administrators will begin the second stage by convening meetings of the other creditors' committees, namely (i) the Committee of Lenders and Similar Institutions, which should meet in the first half of April 2011, and (ii) a General Meeting of Bondholders (holders of OCEANE bonds), which should then meet during the second half of April in order to make a decision on the insolvency protection plan presented.

The number of OCEANE bonds in circulation is nearly 1.8 million, of which about 1.2 million are owned by Vial Holding.

Taking into account the estimated time required, the Toulon Commercial Court should give its ruling on the insolvency protection plan on or about 15 June 2011.

Groupe Vial's Shareholders' General Meeting, which, in particular, will deal with approval of the financial statements for the financial year 2009, is scheduled to take place in Toulon at 2.30 p.m. on 29 April 2011. The necessary notice of this Combined General Meeting was published in the compulsory legal announcements bulletin (BALO) on 23 March 2011.

It will be recalled that in an order dated 9 March 2011, the Presiding Judge of the Toulon Commercial Court extended the deadline for holding Groupe Vial's and Vial Holding's General Meetings about 2009 full-year financial statements, by an additional three months, namely until 30 June 2011.

About Groupe VIAL (www.groupe-vial.com)

Listed on Euronext Paris of NYSE Euronext since December 2006, Groupe VIAL manufactures and distributes aluminium, PVC and wood joinery products (doors, windows, gates, stairs, etc.) offering unparalleled value for money through tight control of supply lines; efficient, modern production facilities and its vast distribution network that consisted, at 31st December 2010, of 69 stores opened under the VIAL Menuiseries brand, including 4 in Spain and 1 in Portugal.

Public site: www.vial-menuiseries.com

Compartment C of Euronext Paris, a NYSE Euronext Group market Reuters: **VIA.PA** - Bloomberg: **VIA FP**



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