



Sudden passing away of John Searle, President of Saft's management board

Paris, September 24, 2014 – The members of the supervisory board and the management board of the Saft group are very sad to announce the sudden passing away of John Searle, Chairman of Saft's management board, this morning.

Aged 60, John Searle joined Saft in 1990 as commercial director in the UK; after which he carried out a number of senior management roles, before being appointed Chairman of the Management Board in 2002. Under his management, the group made significant developments, notably becoming a listed company, accelerating its international expansion, and by successfully developing and deploying the lithium-ion technology.

"Both a visionary and a great industry leader, John Searle transformed Saft and made it into an undisputed leader in its markets," declared Yann Duchesne, President of the Supervisory Board "Throughout his career within the Group, John constantly shared his passion, his professionalism, and his values with the teams at Saft."

The senior management team put in place by John Searle will continue the strategy that he began. Brunos Dathis, CFO of the Group since 2008 will take on the role of chairman of the management board in the interim period, as proposed by the Supervisory Board.

The employees of Saft are deeply saddened by his death, and express their heartfelt condolences to his family, in particular to his wife and two children.

About Saft

Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world leading designer and manufacturer of advanced technology batteries for industry. The Group is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel batteries and primary lithium batteries for the industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, civil and military electronics' markets. Saft is the world leader in space and defence batteries with its Li-ion technologies which are also deployed in the energy storage, transportation and telecommunication network markets. More than 3,800 employees in 18 countries, 14 manufacturing sites and an extensive sales network all contribute to accelerating the Group's growth for the future. Saft batteries. Designed for industry.

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