

Press release



Brussels, 29 January 2008

KBC Private Equity and Defiac acquire Dark

KBC Private Equity and Defiac acquire Dark, a Belgian lighting manufacturer, having previously taken over Wever & Ducreé in the summer of 2007. The activities of Dark and Wever & Ducreé have been brought together under the new holding company “2 B delighted”.

Dark, a fast-growing and innovative company, has over the years won many international design awards with its original products and unique use of materials. Dark recently also won the prestigious European ‘Design Management Award’.

“With the support of our financial partners we will make 2 B delighted a platform for trendsetting and leading brand names in the lighting industry. We will strive to ensure that every brand name on this platform retains its own identity in the market, so that we can provide our customers a total package” says Lieven Cuyckens, group CEO.

“By acquiring Dark, the new lighting group has expanded not only its product range but also its outreach to architects and other professionals in the lighting market”, adds Philippe de Vicq, Managing Director of KBC Private Equity.

Marnick Smessaert, founder and driving force behind Dark, continues to be responsible for the brand identity of Dark, and takes up the position of Art & Business Development Director for the whole group.

Note to the editor

About KBC Private Equity (www.kbcpe.be)

KBC Private Equity provides venture capital and finances acquisitions of medium-sized companies for amounts ranging from 2 million to 50 million euros. The company operates primarily in Belgium and in Central & Eastern Europe, the KBC group’s home markets, with offices in Brussels, Budapest, Prague and Warsaw.

KBC Private Equity may take either majority or minority stakes in companies and will contribute financial resources in the form of equity finance and/or mezzanine finance. With an experienced team of 29 people, KBC Private Equity has some 65 active investments in portfolio with a market value in excess of 450 million euros. An active shareholder with a long-term perspective, KBC Private Equity is involved in taking strategic decisions and providing active support to management teams in the further development of their companies. As part of the KBC group, KBC Private Equity can make use of the group’s extensive network and knowledge.

For more information on KBC Private Equity: e-mail info@kbcpe.be.

Contacts:

KBC Private Equity
12 Havenlaan, 1080 Brussels
Philippe de Vicq, Managing Director
Tel. +32 2 429 22 49 – E-mail philippe.devicq@kbcpe.be

2 B delighted
Lieven Cuyckens, CEO
0473 870 759 (+32 473 870 759 from outside Belgium)
For more information on the Dark product range, go to www.Dark.be