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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **KEY MILESTONES FOR PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF EXCEET ACHIEVED**

- **Several material conditions for the proposed acquisition of Exceet satisfied**

**Luxembourg, July 12, 2011** - Today Helikos achieved a key milestone for the acquisition of Exceet Group AG. Oranje Nassau Participaties BV ("ONP"), which is a 100% subsidiary of Wendel SA, today exercised the founders' purchase option with respect to Class A shares ("Public Shares") of Helikos that had been tendered for redemption in connection with the proposed acquisition of Exceet Group AG. The exercise by ONP of the founders' purchase option ensures that the less than 35% maximum redemption condition set forth in the articles of Helikos and the share purchase agreement relating to the acquisition of Exceet (the "SPA") is met. It also ensures that the condition of a € 15 million minimum cash contribution to Exceet Group AG contemplated in the SPA will be met. Furthermore, on July 11, 2011, Helikos obtained merger control clearance from the German Federal Cartel Office for the proposed acquisition of Exceet. Several key conditions under the SPA for the acquisition of Exceet have thus now been satisfied.

*"We are pleased to have achieved these important milestones for the proposed acquisition of Exceet and look forward to the shareholder and warrant holder meetings called for July 21 to approve the acquisition and related matters. We believe that acquiring Exceet offers our shareholders a very attractive opportunity. Exceet is a hidden champion that continues to demonstrate a compelling growth story, as evidenced by its strong revenue performance in the first half of 2011."* said Roland Lienau, CEO of Helikos. As previously announced, the preliminary non-audited consolidated group sales of Exceet Group AG in the first half-year of 2011 amounted to approximately CHF 100 million (approximately € 79 million), representing an increase of approximately 30% compared to group sales of CHF 76.5 million (€ 63.1 million) in the first half of 2010.

In the event the acquisition of Exceet is consummated, Helikos will redeem 5,101,305 Public Shares (25.51% of the outstanding Public Shares). The number of shares to be redeemed reflects the exercise by ONP of the founders' purchase option for a total of 7,911,554 Public Shares. The purchase of Public Shares under the founders' purchase option is conditioned on the approval by the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders and special meeting of Class A warrant holders of the matters submitted for approval at such meetings.

ONP has entered into agreements with Ventizz Capital Fund III Holding Company LLC ("Ventizz"), the other sellers under the SPA and certain third-party investors, under which ONP will sell a portion of the Public Shares ONP acquires under the founders' purchase option. If the maximum number of 4,890,733 Public Shares that Ventizz, through a newly established Luxembourg subsidiary, and the other sellers under the SPA (together, the "Sellers") have agreed to purchase from ONP are sold to the Sellers, immediately following the closing of the acquisition of Exceet and the closing of the ONP sales to the Sellers and other third party investors, the Sellers will hold a maximum of 39.7% of the outstanding Public Shares and 49.5% of the outstanding voting shares of Helikos, and ONP and the other founders of Helikos will hold a maximum of 29.5% of the outstanding Public Shares and 32.5% of the outstanding voting shares of Helikos.

*"Our commitment and management's commitment to retain a significant stake in Exceet reflects our confidence in Exceet's growth story and aligns our interests with those of investors. We are looking forward to further participating in Exceet's growth potential."* commented Willi Mannheims, Managing Partner at Ventizz Capital Partners.

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Exceet Group AG is one of the leading providers of embedded electronics and security solutions in Europe with production facilities in Switzerland, Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany and the Netherlands. In 2010, on a converted-to-euro basis Exceet Group AG generated sales of € 119.7 million (€ 79.1 million in 2009) and earnings (EBITDA) of € 17.7 million in 2010 (€ 7.0 million in 2009). On June 7, 2011, Helikos SE entered into a share purchase agreement with the management of Exceet Group AG and its majority shareholder, Ventizz Capital Fund III Holding Company LLC, for the acquisition of all outstanding shares of Exceet Group AG. The acquisition is subject to the approval by the extraordinary general meeting of Helikos shareholders and the special meeting of Class A warrant holders, both of which have been convened for July 21, 2011.

**About Helikos SE**

Helikos is a special purpose acquisition company established for the sole purpose of acquiring a business. Its intention is to identify a "Hidden Champion" with solid fundamentals and partner with existing shareholders and management team to help develop and execute further growth of that company.

In February 2010, Helikos raised €200 million from German and international institutional investors and listed on the Prime Standard of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. Helikos was founded by Wendel SA, Paris, a family-controlled, European listed investment company with more than 300 years of history and a 30-year track record of successful industrial investments, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hermann Simon, founder and Chairman of Simon-Kucher & Partners Strategy and Marketing Consultants, a leading global consulting firm established in 1985 in Bonn, Germany and Roland Lienau Managing Director of Wendel, member of Wendel's Investment Committee and previously co-head of German Equity Capital Markets for Deutsche Bank. Further information on Helikos SE is available at [www.helikosgroup.com](http://www.helikosgroup.com).

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