



Statement by Wendel following the publication of an article in the Journal Du Dimanche (JDD) newspaper, entitled "Le fisc s'attaque à la maison Wendel" (Wendel under attack from the tax authorities).

The allegations concerning Wendel published in the JDD on January 2, 2011 are erroneous.

Wendel has not received any notification from the tax authorities concerning all or part of the €240 million mentioned.

Wendel has not received any request or notification from URSSAF ⁽¹⁾ concerning events in 2007, which, as for tax purposes, are now beyond the prescriptive period.

The rest of the article concerns the personal situation of individuals about which Wendel has no information, nor any comment to make.

(1) URSSAF: French administrative body managing social security payments and funds

About Wendel

Wendel is one of Europe's leading listed investment firms. The Group invests in France and abroad, in companies that are leaders in their businesses: Bureau Veritas, Legrand, Saint-Gobain, Materis, Deutsch, Oranje-Nassau and Stahl. Wendel plays an active role as industry shareholder. It implements long-term development strategies, which involve boosting growth and margins of companies so as to enhance their leading market positions. Wendel's consolidated 2009 sales totaled €4.9 billion. Wendel is listed on Eurolist by Euronext Paris.

Standard & Poor's rating: Long term BB-, stable outlook - Short term B since July 19, 2010.



Wendel is the founding sponsor of the Centre Pompidou-Metz, which has been attended by more than 500,000 visitors since its opening in May 2010.

Press contacts

Anne-Lise Bapst: +33 (0) 1 42 85 63 24
al.bapst@wendelgroup.com

Christèle Lion: +33 (0) 1 42 85 91 27
c.lion@wendelgroup.com

Analysts and investor contacts

Laurent Marie: +33 (0)1 42 85 91 31
l.marie@wendelgroup.com

Olivier Allot: +33 (0)1 42 85 63 73
o.allot@wendelgroup.com