



**Bureau Veritas has signed a definitive and unconditional agreement to acquire Amdel, an Australian leader in upstream minerals testing services. Creation of a global platform for Mining & Mineral services**

**Paris, May 2, 2008** – Bureau Veritas has signed a definitive agreement to acquire all the shares of Amdel Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian leader in minerals testing. The sale agreement is unconditional and is expected to be completed by May 7, 2008.

Frank Piedelièvre, Bureau Veritas President and Chief Executive Officer stated: *"The acquisition of Amdel is a highly important investment as it gives Bureau Veritas a leading position in the high growth minerals market. We are glad to welcome all of Amdel's employees and management who have an impressive track record of solid growth and profitability in the last three years. We believe Amdel brings the technical expertise and commercial base to assist the group in becoming a leading global player in minerals testing and inspection services. The acquisition perfectly complements that of CCI Holdings (leader for coal testing in Australia) and Cesmec (leading analytical services provider in Chile and Peru)."*

Founded in 1960 and headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, Amdel has more than 1,200 employees and operates 23 laboratories across Australia and New Zealand.

Amdel is one of the largest analytical testing businesses in Australia and New Zealand and a leader in upstream minerals testing services in Australia. In recent years Amdel acquired IML, Ultra Trace and Labmark. Amdel provides a full range of mineral testing services (analytical, mineral processing, mineralogy) to a broad range of mining key accounts.

Amdel operates through four divisions:

- Minerals (80% of revenue): Analytical, mineral processing and mineralogy testing with focus on iron ore, base metals, gold and nickel laterites,
- Environmental (10%) of revenue: soil, water and sediments testing,
- Food (7% of revenue): food testing with a focus on meat and dairy,
- Industrial (3% of revenue): oil and gas and material testing.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, Amdel should reach 188 million Australian dollars (€113 million) in revenues and 45 million Australian dollars in EBITA (€27 million). Amdel revenues and profits are expected to grow rapidly in the coming years as a result of increasing exploration spending for minerals in Australia and internationally, which is supported by strong demand worldwide and by the trend toward outsourcing of testing services.

The integration of Amdel will enable the group to establish a global platform in testing and inspection services for the mining & minerals industries with a presence in Asia/Pacific, Africa and Latin America. The addition of Amdel will also increase significantly Bureau Veritas' network in Australia and New Zealand, which will have more than 2,200 employees and approximately €175 million of annual revenues.

## **About Bureau Veritas**

*Founded in 1828, Bureau Veritas is an international group specialised in the inspection, analysis, audit, and certification of products, infrastructure (buildings, industrial sites, equipment, ships, etc.) and management systems (ISO standards etc.) in relation to regulatory or voluntary frameworks.*

*Bureau Veritas ranks as the world's second largest group in conformity assessment and certification services in the fields of quality, health and safety, environment, and social responsibility ("QHSE") and the world leader in QHSE services not including commodity testing. Bureau Veritas is recognised and accredited by major national and international organisations.*

*Bureau Veritas is present in 140 countries through a network of 850 offices and laboratories. It has more than 33,000 employees and a client base of more than 300,000.*

*Since 1996, Bureau Veritas has posted average annual growth of 15% in revenue and 22% in adjusted operating profit. In 2007, the Group reported revenue of €2.067 billion, adjusted operating profit of €312 million and adjusted attributable net profit of €193 million.*

*Since October 24, 2007, Bureau Veritas has been listed on the Euronext Paris Eurolist (Compartment A, code ISIN FR 0006174348, mnemonic: BVI).*

*For further information [www.bureauveritas.fr](http://www.bureauveritas.fr)*

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