



release
PRESS

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Paris, June 7, 2011

**Saint-Gobain launches the initial public offering of Verallia
on the regulated market of NYSE Euronext in Paris**

In accordance with the timetable announced on October 13 2010, Saint-Gobain announces today the launch of the initial public offering of Verallia, the second largest global manufacturer of glass containers for the food and beverage industry, by way of sale of a minority interest and the contemplated listing of its shares on the regulated market of NYSE Euronext in Paris.

Pierre-André de Chalendar, Chairman and CEO of Compagnie de Saint-Gobain said: *"The IPO of Verallia is the final step in Saint-Gobain's strategic decision to refocus on the habitat and construction markets. This successful company, which Saint-Gobain has developed for close to a century, offers a compelling investment opportunity in a business that has demonstrated resilience and strong cash-flow generation. Its positioning towards high value-added products, as well as its exposure to emerging markets, offer solid growth opportunities. We believe these prospects will prove attractive to investors in Verallia at this new stage of its development."*

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About Saint-Gobain

Saint-Gobain, the world leader in the habitat and construction markets, designs, manufactures and distributes building materials, providing innovative solutions to the challenges of growth, energy efficiency and environmental protection. With 2010 sales of €40.1 billion, Saint-Gobain operates in 64 countries and has nearly 190,000 employees. For more information about Saint-Gobain, please visit www.saint-gobain.com.

Important information

No communication and no information in respect of this transaction or of Verallia may be distributed to the public in any jurisdiction where a registration or approval is required. No steps have been or will be taken in any jurisdiction (other than France) where such steps would be required. The issue, the subscription for or the purchase of Verallia's shares may be subject to specific legal or regulatory restrictions in certain jurisdictions. Verallia assumes no responsibility for any violation of any such restrictions by any person.

This announcement is not a prospectus within the meaning of Directive 2003/71/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of November 4th, 2003, as amended, in particular by Directive 2010/73/UE in the extent such Directive has been transposed in the relevant member State of the European Economic Area (together, the "Prospectus Directive").

With respect to the member States of the European Economic Area which have implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "relevant member State"), other than France, no action has been undertaken or will be undertaken to make an offer to the public of the shares requiring a publication of a prospectus in any relevant member State. As a result, the new or existing shares of Verallia may only be offered in relevant member States (i) to qualified investors, as defined by the Prospectus Directive; or (ii) in any other circumstances, not requiring Verallia to publish a prospectus as provided under article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive.

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