



European Marketing Distribution

Press release

13 March 2017

**EMD GOES INTERCONTINENTAL – AUSTRALIAN RETAILER
WOOLWORTHS JOINS THE LEADING PURCHASING AND
MARKETING GROUP**

- **Global market penetration profitable for all member companies**

European Marketing Distribution AG (EMD), in Pfäffikon/Switzerland, accelerates its continuous growth and will hence operate intercontinentally: a new member in the EMD alliance is the Australian retailer **Woolworths**, Sydney. This new partnership means Woolworths will maximise the EMD network to procure volume for its private label product ranges.

Thanks to cooperation with the Australian supermarket chain Woolworths, EMD increases the growth opportunity for its supplier base . Woolworths currently operates nearly 1000 supermarkets, in Australia - and more than 180 in New Zealand.

Woolworths is focused on providing access to great quality food and non-food products to customers across Australia and have been known as the Fresh Food People for more than 30 years.

The newly signed agreements are profitable for each and every member of EMD: additional and interesting opportunities for procurement of goods overseas are created for the European trading companies already belonging to the group alliance.

Woolworths will optimise its European purchasing procedures through the already established office in Switzerland and working in close cooperation with EMD. The agreement between EMD and Woolworths relates initially to the private label business.

Steve Greentree, Director, Woolworths Food Company, comments on the benefits of partnering with EMD:

“We are delighted to partner with EMD. This collaboration will increase our access to great quality private label products that we are unable to source locally. Combined with our commitment to source Australian products first and foremost, this ensures our customers will have even more choice and convenience when shopping for own brand products at Woolworths.

"Furthermore, the agreement will provide a direct network for Woolworths' Australian and New Zealand suppliers to maximise investment and growth opportunities with European retailers."

EMD Managing Director Philippe Gruyters speaking about new member Woolworths and the pursued strategy said: "The integration of procurement volumes in high demand and customer-oriented marketing activities brings considerable benefits for both the trading and the manufacturing sector in the Oceanian countries of Australia and New Zealand as well as in Europe.

Since 1989 EMD has been recognised by the industry as a trustful, efficient sourcing and business development partner. Ever since EMD has been consistently expanding its area of cooperation both with industry and retailers.

The development by EMD was highlighted last year when at the beginning of 2016, one of the most prominent trade companies in the United Kingdom, the Wal-Mart subsidiary Asda joined the EMD Group. A short time later EMD announced together with the Kaufland Group that all the Kaufland stores in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria would manage their international agreements with the branded product industry also through EMD. Added to this, German hypermarket specialist Globus decided to join the EMD alliance's international agreements for Russia and the Czech Republic, together with various contracts relating to German Globus hypermarket sites.

The bottom line is that EMD, with the newly joined Woolworths to the group, represents a worldwide total turnover of more than 216 billion euros in 20 European countries now including Australia and New Zealand. The alliance represents the interests of about 400 trading companies and over 150,000 point of sales in every type of distribution, mainly in grocery retail.

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About EMD

Represented in 20 European countries and now also in Australia and New Zealand, the EMD headquarters located in Pfäffikon, Switzerland, is responsible for pooling the interests of renowned retail companies and coordinating them to common benefit. With a total external consumer turnover of over 216 billion euro, the associated group cooperate in buying goods all over the world and negotiating contracts with the producers of branded products at a transnational level. This makes EMD the leading buying group for the food globally.

The following member companies of European Marketing Distribution (EMD) highlight in the best possible way the benefits of a close cooperation in 22 countries:

United Kingdom: ASDA	Finland: Tuko Logistics
Netherlands: Superunie	Sweden: Axfood
Germany: MARKANT AG	Denmark: Dagrofa
France: Groupe Casino	Czech Republic: MARKANT/Kaufland Cesko, Globus
Switzerland: MARKANT Syntrade	Slovakia: MARKANT/Kaufland Slovensko
Spain: Euromadi Iberica	Poland: Kaufland
Portugal: EuromadiPort	Croatia: Kaufland
Austria: MARKANT Österreich	Romania: Kaufland
Italy: ESD Italia	Bulgaria: Kaufland
Norway: Unil/Norges Gruppen	Russia: Globus
Australia: Woolworths Ltd.	New Zealand: Progressive Enterprises Ltd

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