



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 30 June, 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.