

Eckes-Granini acquires Danish juice producer Rynkeby from Arla

Nieder-Olm, 19 May 2016. Eckes-Granini Group GmbH, the international corporate group specialized in non-alcoholic fruit beverages under the umbrella of Eckes AG, announced the acquisition of the juice producer Rynkeby Foods A/S, based in Ringe, a Danish city in the Syddanmark region. The seller is the international dairy company Arla Foods amba. The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

With 200 employees and an annual production volume of over 130 million litres, Rynkeby is the leading producer of juices and cordials in the Nordic states. Together, the Rynkeby and God Morgon brands hold a strong market-leading position in Denmark. Its strongest foreign market is Sweden. More than 50 varieties of fruits and berries from 25 different countries are processed at the production facility in Ringe.

Thomas Hinderer, Chairman and CEO of the Eckes-Granini Group, notes: "We are proud to welcome Rynkeby Foods along with its highly motivated professional team and two new, strong brands to the Eckes-Granini Group. The Rynkeby and God Morgon brands round out our portfolio ideally. We are now number one in eight European countries as we continue to pursue our successful course as the leading supplier of fruit beverages."



Povl Krogsgaard, vice-CEO of Arla Foods amba, is confident that Eckes-Granini is the better strategic fit for Rynkeby going forward: “Over the past two decades, Arla has sold off subsidiaries that do not have a direct link to dairy production in order to focus on our core business. Rynkeby is the last remaining subsidiary in the Arla Group not linked to milk, and we believe that the Rynkeby business will be better suited under the ownership of Eckes-Granini who can take the company to the next level in its future development.”

Eckes-Granini remains committed to its declared goal of combining organic growth with external growth through the acquisition of leading brands. With the integration of these two new brands, the group now controls eleven strategic brands in Europe. Following its latest acquisition, Eckes-Granini is now market leader in Denmark and Sweden, and has extended its market lead in Finland. The group was already represented in the Nordic region with fully-owned subsidiaries in Finland and Sweden as well as in Lithuania (Baltic Region).

Thomas Hinderer is especially pleased that this strategic acquisition has been accomplished in the first year of operations under the corporate Agenda 2020: “One of the key elements of our Agenda 2020 is to focus on our international brand portfolio. We are the driving force when it comes to further consolidation of the European fruit juice market.”



About Rynkeby

Rynkeby Foods A/S is a Denmark-based supplier of juice and cordials, producing more than 130 million litres for consumers primarily in Denmark and Sweden. Revenue in 2015 was approx. 1 billion DKK (more than 130 million euro). The company has 200 employees, with its headquarters and main production site located in Ringe, Denmark.

About Arla Foods

Arla Foods is an international dairy company, owned by 12.700 farmers from Denmark, Sweden, the UK, Germany, Belgium, Luxemburg and the Netherlands. Arla Foods is one of the strongest players in the international dairy arena, with a wide range of dairy products of highest quality. Well-known brands like Lurpak® and Castello® belong to the Arla family. Arla Foods is also the world's largest manufacturer of organic products.

About Eckes-Granini

Eckes-Granini Group GmbH is an international corporate group specialized in non-alcoholic fruit beverages under the umbrella of Eckes AG. With the international premium brand granini as well as strong local brands, including Brämhults, Elmenhorster, Joker, hohes C, Marli, Pago, SIÓ und YO Syrup, the group holds a leading position in the European fruit beverage market. Eckes-Granini Group operates (through fully-owned subsidiaries in many cases) in Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Romania and Bulgaria, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Scandinavia and Switzerland and employs roughly 1,500 people. Eckes-Granini markets its products in both the retail food trade and the out-of-home sector in over 80 different countries.

For further information please contact:

Sybille Geitel or Britta Fey
Engel & Zimmermann AG
Consultancy for Communication
Am Schlosspark 15, 82131 Gauting (Germany)
Telephone: 00 49 89 / 89 35 633

