



Media release

Basel, 9 May 2012

Change regarding important participation of Bell Ltd: Hilcona AG takes over Gastro Star AG

Hilcona is acquiring Gastro Star AG, thereby strengthening its market position as a provider of a complete range of products in the fresh convenience food market segment. All jobs at Gastro Star will be retained, and the established production and distribution facilities in Dällikon/ZH and Villigen/AG will also be maintained. The parties have agreed to maintain silence about the conditions of the transaction. The merger, which is subject to the approval of the Swiss Competition Commission (COMCO), will take place retroactively to 1 January 2012.

As part of a cooperation project, Bell Ltd has owned 49 % of Hilcona since 1 January 2011 and will acquire a further 2 % of the capital of Hilcona in 2015.

This media release and other additional information can be accessed at <http://www.bell.ch/en/media/media-releases.aspx>

Photos and more information on the Bell Group can be found at www.bell.ch.

About Bell

Bell is the largest Swiss meat processing company. Its range of products includes meat, poultry, charcuterie, seafood and convenience products. Bell counts the retail and wholesale trade, food service sector and food processing industry among its customers. In Europe, the French company Polette and the German companies ZIMBO and Abraham belong to the Bell Group. Some 6,500 employees generated consolidated sales of 2.52 billion Swiss francs in 2011. Bell is listed on the Swiss stock exchange.

For more information:

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