

Press release

Competition authority approves the acquisition of Hügli Holding Aktiengesellschaft by Bell Food Group Ltd

Basel, 8 February 2018 - Yesterday, the competent competition authority (European Commission) approved the acquisition of Hügli Holding Aktiengesellschaft (Hügli) by Bell Food Group without attaching any conditions.

On 13 January 2018 Bell Food Group had entered into a purchase agreement regarding Dr. A. Stoffel Holding AG, the majority shareholder of Hügli. Dr. A. Stoffel Holding AG holds 50.2% of the capital and 65.0% of the voting rights of Hügli. With the approval of the European Commission the condition for the completion of such purchase agreement has been fulfilled. The completion is expected to occur on 21 February 2018.

On 15 January 2018 Bell Food Group pre-announced a public tender offer for the still publicly held bearer shares in Hügli. The corresponding offer prospectus shall – as planned – be published on 26 February 2018.

About the Bell Food Group

The Bell Food Group is one of the leading meat processors and convenience specialists in Europe. Its range of products includes meat, poultry, charcuterie, seafood, convenience products and salads. With the brands Bell, Hilcona and Eisberg, the Group meets a diversity of customer needs. Its customers include the retail trade as well as the food service sector and the food processing industry. More than 10,000 employees generate annual revenues of CHF 3.6 billion. The Bell Food Group is listed on the Swiss stock exchange.