



PRESS RELEASE

Yves Caprara –Prayon’s new CEO

Engis, Belgium September 24, 2008 - Yves Caprara is now Managing Director-CEO of the Prayon Group, world leader in phosphates with head offices in Engis (Liege Region of Belgium). He has taken over from Willy Marlier, who held the post for ten years and who has just taken retirement.

During the last eighteen years, Yves Caprara (52) has carried out several functions within Prayon. In 1990, he joined the company as manager of the Group’s British subsidiary, as of 1994 he headed the Europhos subsidiary (born out of the fusion of the phosphate activities of Rhône-Poulenc and Prayon), and he was appointed Group financial director in 1998. A role he held concurrently with that of production manager as of 2004.

A Sales Engineer from the Solvay Business School, Yves Caprara began his career with Ziegler then Exxon Chemical, two companies with which he developed strong expertise in the field of logistics, international trade and finance.

Prayon boasts a turnover of approximately € 1 billion, with 1,400 staff members throughout the world. Benefitting from a favourable economic situation and a commercial policy adapted to the rise in cost of raw materials, Prayon’s new Managing Director is aiming for long term company development. The company is now a major player on niche markets such as the food and horticulture markets, while establishing its position as world leader in phosphoric acid technology and uranium extraction.

Yves Caprara emphasises: “In this highly competitive market, we must strive for excellence in everything we embark upon and always be attentive to customers in order to supply products and services of the highest quality. In the face of competition, innovation is also something that makes us stand out. It has become a permanent challenge for us, and is at the root of intensive research carried out in our laboratories”.

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ABOUT PRAYON

Boasting over a century of industrial experience, the Prayon Group, based in Belgium, has established itself as one of the world leaders in phosphate chemistry. Owned in equal shares by the Office Chérifien des Phosphates [O.C.P.] and the Walloon Regional Investment Company, Prayon is today comprised of around twenty companies based in more than ten countries.

Products

At our plants located throughout the world, we manufacture and commercialise a wide range of mainly phosphate products (phosphoric acid and derived salts) and fluorides. Largely unknown to the public, our products are mainly used as raw materials in the manufacture of finished products. They are used in *food production* [bakery, meat, melted cheese, fish and sea food, cereals, fruits and vegetables], *beverages*, *pharmaceutical products* [tooth paste, oral hygiene] as well as in different *technical applications*.

Processes

With state-of-the-art innovation in our fields of competence, our phosphoric acid wet manufacturing processes are commercialised across the world and are used for the production of over 60 % of world tonnage.

More information on www.prayon.com

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