

Wittlich, 27.02.2014

Press release on the

Acquisition of VION's stake in Fuchs GmbH in Prüm by SIMON-Fleisch Holding

In a contract signed today, SIMON-Fleisch Holding acquired VION Fresh Meat South GmbH's stake in Klaus-Dieter Fuchs GmbH in Prüm.

SIMON-Fleisch had indicated to VION last autumn that it was interested in acquiring its 50 per cent stake in Fuchs GmbH. Klaus-Dieter Fuchs GmbH is an extremely successful business. Due to the low slaughter volume from the Group's point of view and structural changes within the Group, the strategic importance of the Prüm site for VION had increasingly diminished (see also VION's press release of today). Despite its integration into the Group, Fuchs has therefore already been operating largely freely on the market in its day-to-day business in recent years. With the acquisition, SIMON-Fleisch intends to realise synergies, particularly in the beef sector.

At the end of January, the parties involved reached an agreement on the main points of the transaction. The shareholder Klaus-Dieter Fuchs now holds a majority of the shares. Subject to the approval of the purchase by the cartel authorities, the economic transfer of the share will take place retroactively to 31.12.2013. The parties agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

Klaus-Dieter Fuchs GmbH slaughters approximately 350 cattle and 200 pigs per week, all of which come from the region. The company employs about 35 people and generated a turnover of almost 20 million euros in 2013.

Continuity is maintained in the operational business. Even after the entry of SIMON-Fleisch Holding, Fuchs GmbH will continue to be managed by Klaus-Dieter Fuchs (50) as managing partner together with his daughters - now as a pure family business. Paul J. Simon (63) was appointed as an additional managing director.

SIMON-Fleisch in Wittlich currently slaughters about 20,000 pigs and 150-200 cattle a week. In addition to Klaus-Dieter Fuchs GmbH, the SIMON-Fleisch Group also includes Eifeler Fleischwaren GmbH in Lissendorf. Altogether, the group of companies generates an annual turnover of approximately € 220 million and provides about 600 jobs in the low mountain region of the Eifel.