

# Mondelez International Halle chocolate factory to be acquired by strategic supply partner Barry Callebaut

- Mondelez International plans to sell the Halle chocolate factory to Barry Callebaut
- Long-term supply agreement for the continued production of Côte d'Or liquid chocolate in Belgium
- The employees at the Halle plant would become part of Barry Callebaut
- Mondelēz International remains owner of the Côte d'Or brand & recipes

Mechelen, 15 September 2016 - Mondelez International announced today its intention to divest the Halle chocolate factory in Belgium to Barry Callebaut. Switzerland's Barry Callebaut is a renowned industrial chocolate manufacturer and a long-term supply partner of Mondelez International. Mondelez International would also enter into a long-term supply agreement with Barry Callebaut for the continued production of Côte d'Or liquid chocolate in Belgium. Under the proposed transaction, all employees at the Halle plant would become employees of Barry Callebaut. Under a toll-manufacturing agreement, the Côte d'Or chocolate would continue to be produced in the Halle factory.

The proposed acquisition of the Halle chocolate factory by Barry Callebaut is a logical next step in the strategic supply partnership between both parties since it would allow Mondelēz International to continue to optimize its chocolate supply chain network, while offering Barry Callebaut the chance to expand its manufacturing capacity in Belgium.

Mondelez International, a global snacking company, has a proud manufacturing heritage in Europe, at the heart of which sits its chocolate supply chain. Operating in a highly challenging and rapidly evolving market, Mondelez International needs to constantly optimize its network in order to remain competitive and ensure continued growth. The announced transaction follows an in-depth review of the site which looked at a range of factors including cost competitiveness and how to improve utilization.

Barry Callebaut is a renowned industrial chocolate manufacturer with Belgian roots and a major supplier to Mondelez International. As part of the proposed transaction, Barry Callebaut would continue to manufacture the unique liquid chocolate in Belgium used in Mondelez International's Côte d'Or products and would manufacture the finished Côte d'Or products in the Halle plant for Mondelez International, under a toll-manufacturing agreement.

The Côte d'Or brand, its recipes, and the products that are currently mainly produced at the Halle plant will remain the property of Mondelez International.

Marie-Pascale Sire, Managing Director Benelux states: "We are pleased to have reached an agreement with Barry Callebaut that safeguards a new future for the Halle plant and marks a further step in our strategic supply partnership. Mondelez International remains the owner of the Côte d'Or brand and will continue to invest in and develop new Côte d'Or products. We are proud













of our brand, with its strong Belgian heritage and will continue to guarantee the unique Côte d'Or taste and quality that is loved by our Belgian consumers".

This transaction remains subject to closing conditions and consultations with the employee representatives. Both parties will now begin consultation with their respective works councils and expect the transition to close by the end of December 2016. The two parties have agreed not to disclose any financial details of the transaction.

### **About Mondelez International**

Mondelēz International, Inc. (NASDAQ: MDLZ) is a global snacking powerhouse, with 2015 net revenues of approximately \$30 billion. Creating delicious moments of joy in 165 countries, Mondelēz International is a world leader in biscuits, chocolate, gum, candy and powdered beverages, with billion-dollar brands such as Oreo, LU and Nabisco biscuits; Cadbury, Cadbury Dairy Milk and Milka chocolate; and Trident gum. Mondelēz International is a proud member of the Standard and Poor's 500, NASDAQ 100 and Dow Jones Sustainability Index. Visit www.mondelezinternational.com or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MDLZ.

## About Mondelez International in Belgium

Mondelēz International is the Belgian market leader in chocolate, biscuits, gum and cream cheese. The snacking company currently employs about 2500 people in Belgium, including 330 in Halle.

## **About Barry Callebaut**

With annual sales of about CHF 6.2 billion (EUR 5.6 billion / USD 6.6 billion) in fiscal year 2014/15, the Zurich-based Barry Callebaut Group is the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products – from sourcing and processing cocoa beans to producing the finest chocolates, including chocolate fillings, decorations and compounds. The Group runs more than 50 production facilities worldwide and employs a diverse and dedicated global workforce of more than 9,000 people.

The Barry Callebaut Group serves the entire food industry, from industrial food manufacturers to artisanal and professional users of chocolate, such as chocolatiers, pastry chefs, bakers, hotels, restaurants or caterers. The two global brands catering to the specific needs of these Gourmet customers are Callebaut® and Cacao Barry®. The Barry Callebaut Group is committed to sustainable cocoa production to help ensure future supplies of cocoa and improve farmer livelihoods. It supports the Cocoa Horizons Foundation in its goal to shape a sustainable cocoa and chocolate future.

#### **Press contacts:**

Annick Verdegem
Mondelēz International
+32 15 74 38 88
annick.verdegem@mdlz.com

Wim Lefebure Whyte Corporate Affairs +32 738 06 37 wl@whyte.be









