

## **D.E.M.E.-Board announces appointment of new C.E.O. and C.O.O.**

**11 July 2006**

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The Board of Directors of the Belgian dredging and hydraulic engineering contractor D.E.M.E. (Dredging, Environmental and Marine Engineering NV) from Zwijndrecht (Antwerp) has appointed Mr. Alain Bernard as C.E.O. and General Manager starting 1st October 2006. Mr. Bernard will take over this top position from Mr. Marc Stordiau, who has acted successfully as DEME-Group C.E.O. for 15 years.

Mr. Bernard will remain in position as C.O.O. of D.E.M.E. and General Manager of Dredging International until 1st October 2006. As from that date the position of C.O.O. will be taken over by the present Deputy Operations Officer Mr. Theo Van De Kerckhove. Mr. Philip Hermans will then become the new General Manager of Dredging International.

Mr. Marc Stordiau will continue to assist the D.E.M.E.-management, specifically in the geographical areas of India and the Middle East. He will remain in position as a member of the Board of Directors of Qatar Dredging Company (QDC) in Qatar and of International Seaport Dredging (ISD) in India. Both companies are important strategic partnerships of DEME in these respective countries. Mr. Marc Stordiau will also continue to act as a member of the Board of Directors of D.E.M.E.

The Board of Directors congratulates and thanks Mr. Marc Stordiau for the excellent job he performed as a leader of the D.E.M.E.-Group during many years. In assuming his top duties he gave ample proof of his extraordinary strategic vision. Under his leadership the D.E.M.E.-Group has lived, ever since the merger with Baggerwerken Decloedt & Fils, a thriving period. The expansions of the international activities of D.E.M.E., of the environmental division and of the specialised techniques of marine civil engineering, confirm his vigorous energy and outstanding dynamism. Today D.E.M.E. has become one of the leading companies in the world in its specific industrial sector, owing to the efforts of the whole D.E.M.E.-team, driven by the inexhaustible energy of Marc Stordiau.

The Board of Directors wishes Messrs. Alain Bernard, Theo Van De Kerckhove and Philip Hermans lots of success in exercising their new assignments and responsibilities within the framework of the continued development of the D.E.M.E.-Group.

D.E.M.E. is an international group with a prominent position in the world market for dredging services, hydraulic engineering and environmental works. With its head office based in Zwijndrecht, Belgium, DEME is active in over 60 countries on all continents. In average 80% of D.E.M.E.'s turnover is generated abroad. In doing this the company can rely on an extensive and modern fleet counting over 75 main dredgers. With 3,000 employees, DEME generated a turnover of 815 million Euro in 2005.

In name of

The Board of Directors of the DEME-Group