

## PRESS RELEASE

### FREDERIC VAN HOUTE TO JOIN CIRFS AS DIRECTOR GENERAL AT END OF 2010



CIRFS, the European Man-made Fibres Association, has pleasure in announcing that Mr **Frédéric Van Houte** will join CIRFS as its Director General in December 2010. He replaces Colin Purvis, who will retire from CIRFS at the end of the year.

CIRFS President **Andreas Eule** comments:

*“CIRFS plays a very important role in the man-made fibres industry, in Europe and globally. For this reason, when Colin Purvis told us of his intention to retire at the end of 2010, the Board of CIRFS, together with the Chairman of the European Association for Textile Polyolefins (which shares a secretariat with CIRFS and of which Colin Purvis is also Director General), was unanimous in agreeing that a successor of the highest calibre should be found.*

*“I am delighted to announce the appointment of Frédéric Van Houte as our new Director General. He will join CIRFS at the start of December 2010.*

*“Frédéric Van Houte is currently Secretary General of the European Confederation of the Glass Industries (CPIV) and of two associated bodies, the European Domestic Glass Association (EDG) and the European Special Glass Association (ESGA). He has a great deal of experience in industrial representation to the European authorities, one of the key functions of CIRFS, and in managing an association. He will bring these skills to the service of CIRFS and the European man-made fibres industry.*

*“The man-made fibres industry is a dynamic sector of the European economy, and I believe that, under the leadership of Frédéric Van Houte, and with the support of the talented secretariat team, CIRFS will maintain and develop its capabilities and the value which it brings to the whole industry.”*

## Notes to Editors

1. **CIRFS** is the association for Europe's € 13 billion man-made fibres industry, representing the industry to the European authorities and providing the industry with a wide range of services. Its members cover 85% of European man-made fibres output. The European man-made fibres industry, with production in 2009 of 3.3 million tonnes, is one of the world's largest in terms of output and one of the global leaders in terms of innovation and quality.
2. **EATP** represents the European polyolefin fibre and textile industry. Output of this sector exceeds €3 billion. EATP shares a common secretariat with CIRFS.
3. **Frédéric Van Houte** is of Belgian nationality. Aged 41, he has spent 18 years in industry representational work in Brussels, and has held his current position in CPIV since 1998. Of Belgian and Austrian parentage, he speaks fluent English, French, German, Dutch, Italian and Spanish. His secondary school education was in Vienna, and he is a graduate of the ICHEC Business School in Brussels. He also holds a post-graduate diploma in European studies from the Université Catholique de Louvain.
4. A photograph of Mr Van Houte is enclosed.

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