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PRESS RELEASE

EFFAT CLAIMS THE RESPECT OF THE EMPLOYEES RIGHTS IN THE PERNOD RICARD-ALLIED DOMEQC DEAL

As a consequence of the acquisition, Allied Domecq brands will be shared between the French Pernod Ricard and the American Fortune Brand.

EFFAT wants to express some concerns about the possible effects that such a deal might have on the employment in some countries.

Such concerns are even stronger because Allied Domecq in particular misled its employees, although they addressed several requests to their management asking to respect the EWC agreement and the information and consultation rights provided in the European and national legislations.

EFFAT denounces the following facts:

- Allied Domecq does not seem to be keen to discuss the acquisition in a clear-cut and exhaustive way
- The sale of some brands to Fortune Brands might cause major job losses, mainly in Spain
- The lack of information on the financial and commercial effects of the acquisition

EFFAT calls upon Allied Domecq:

- to inform and consult the EWC on the social effects of the deal, mainly on the future impact on employment and working conditions
- to inform and consult the EWC before any decision concerning the employees is taken
- to respect the trade union rights and to negotiate on the social implications of the acquisition.

Signed by the EFFAT General Secretary
Harald Wiedenhofer