



PRESS RELEASE

MARR: closing of the operation for the acquisition of AS.CA S.p.A., following the go-ahead from the Competition and Market Guarantor Authority.

The due diligence procedure also reached a positive conclusion.

With this acquisition, MARR strengthens its dominance in the major Italian cities.

MARR S.p.A. – a leading company in Italy in the commercialisation and distribution of food products for foodservice – today defined the closing of the operation for the acquisition of AC.SA. S.p.A., following the go-ahead for the operation given by the Competition and Market Guarantor Authority and the positive outcome of the required due diligence procedure.

The acquisition of AS.CA. – which complements the recent acquisitions of SOGEMA S.p.A. in June 2004 and the company branch of SFERA S.r.l. in February 2005 – is part of a three-year plan for the growth of external lines initiated by MARR in 2004 and which should be concluded in the first few months of 2006, well in advance of the deadline originally planned.

AS.CA. S.p.A., which is based in Castenaso (BO), operates in the same sector as MARR and, with over 30 million Euro in revenue and approximately 2,000 clients served in 2004, boasts a significant presence in Emilia Romagna and Veneto, and also has clients in Lombardy and other neighbouring regions.

Formed in 1974 by Aldo Setti, the current President of the Company, AC.SA. has a distribution structure covering approximately 4,500 m² under cover, and operates exclusively through about 60 employees and collaborators, a commercial network comprising more than 20 agents and a fleet of about 20 trucks.

In particular, the acquisition of AC.SA. will enable MARR to further strengthen its presence around Bologna, coherently with a strategy aimed at increasing its hold over the major Italian cities, where it already has localised branches in Milan, Rome, Naples, Turin and Venice, among others.

AS.CA. will keep its current name and will represent an important strategic element within the MARR Group, due to both the high level of competence of the current managerial and operational structure (which will remain unchanged in its entirety) and the continuity guaranteed by a partnership with the past owners, who will collaborate in the operational running of the Unit.



MARR, quoted on the STAR Segment of the Italian stock exchange, is a leading company in Italy in the specialised distribution of food products for non-domestic consumption and is controlled by Cremonini S.p.A..

Through an organisational structure comprising approximately 600 commercial employees, MARR serves about 30,000 clients (mainly restaurants, hotels, pizza producers, tourist villages and company canteens), with an offer including 10,000 food products, including fish, meat, various foodstuffs and fruit and vegetables).

The company operates throughout Italy through a logistical-distribution network comprising 22 distribution centres, 4 cash&carry points and 4 agents with depots, with more than 500 vehicles available

In 2004, MARR achieved consolidated revenue amounting to 794.8 million Euro, a consolidated EDITBA of 49.8 million Euro and net consolidated profits amounting to 19.3 million Euro.

Rimini, 5 September 2005