

MARR: acquires New Catering, a company operating in the distribution of food products to bars and fast food operators.

The operation will enable MARR to diversify its offer and enter into the bar sector.

*Rimini, 25 September 2006* – MARR (Milan: MARR.MI), the leading company in Italy in the distribution of food products to the foodservice sector, signed the agreement for the acquisition of New Catering S.r.I., a company based in Forlì and operating in the distribution of food products to bars and fast food operators.

With revenues of about 7 million Euros expected for 2006 and about 2,600 clients served, New Catering S.r.l. operates through a significant and consolidated presence in the Romagna area, especially the Riviera.

The company, founded in Forlì in 1997, carries out its activities through two distribution centres – one in Forlì and one in Rimini - covering a total area of 1,700 m<sup>2</sup>, and operates through an organisation of about 21 people comprising employees and others, a commercial network of 15 sales agents and a logistical network of about 13 trucks.

The acquisition, which has been approved by the antitrust authority and will be effective from 1 January 2007, involves the acquisition of the company.

The total value of the transaction is about 2.8 million Euros.

The payment will consist of a fixed amount, paid partly in cash and partly due in one year, and a variable amount, which will be paid once the objectives for the 2007 and 2008 business years have been achieved.

New Catering S.r.l. will keep its current name and will represent a structure of significant importance in MARR's distribution organisation, given the overall competence of the current managerial and operational structure, which will be maintained in its entirety.

The acquisition of New Catering is of significant strategic value, as it will enable MARR to diversify its offer, entering into the segment of food supplies to bars.

In 2005, the consumption of food in bars in Italy was worth about 20 billion Euros, compared to a market of consumption of meals outside the home valued at about 58 million Euros (source: Istat).

The acquisition of New Catering S.r.l. is part of the MARR strategic plan for growth through acquisitions, aimed at strengthening its leadership in the reference sector, both by expanding its coverage of national territory and by increasing the segments of clientele served. This operation follows the acquisition of the Prohoga going concern in February 2006, As.ca. and the Sfera going concern in 2005 and Sogema in 2004.

## Press release



**MARR** (Cremonini Group), listed on the STAR segment of the Italian Stock Exchange, is the leading Italian company in the specialised distribution of food products to the non-domestic catering sector and is controlled by Cremonini S.p.A..

With an organisation comprising more than 650 sales agents, MARR serves over 36,000 clients (mainly restaurants, hotels, pizza restaurants, holiday villages and canteens), with an offer that includes 10,000 food products, including fish, meat, various food products and fruit and vegetables.

The company operates nationwide through a logistical-distribution network composed of more than 20 distribution centres, 4 cash & carry, and 4 agents with warehouses and more than 550 vehicles.

In 2005, MARR achieved consolidated revenues amounting to 884.2 million Euros, a consolidated EBITDA of 53 million Euros and consolidated net profits of 22.1 million Euros.

For more information about MARR visit the company's web site at www.marr.it

## For more information:

Image Building Pauline de Fazi Federica Tommasini +39 (0)6 68.392.100

p.defazi@imagebuilding.it f.tommasini@imagebuilding.it