

## PRESS RELEASE

**MARR (CREMONINI GROUP): has approved a project to privately place the company's shares for an exchange value of about 125 million Euros.**

**The operation will concern a minority share of the capital.**

MARR S.p.a., a firm belonging to the Cremonini Group, an Italian *leader* in the sales and distribution of food products and not in the foodservice sector, and Cremonini S.p.a., a firm listed in the Telematic Stock Market managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.a., owner of 100% of MARR S.p.a.'s capital, have appointed Rothschild Italia S.p.a. and Rothschild Inc. to assist them in privately placing a minority share of MARR S.p.a.'s capital.

The operation, decided today by the Board of Directors of the shareholders Cremonini S.p.a. and MARR S.p.a., should be carried out as per the specifications stated in a *term sheet*, which plan the private placement of shares with selected professional investors for an exchange value of about 125 million Euros.

This private placement, besides cutting down the Company's financial indebtedness, aims at supporting its development strategies in the medium term. MARR S.p.a.'s growth plans concern both the Italian and European markets; with reference to the latter, special care will be given to further extend the internationalization process, started in Spain in January 2002, to other countries in the Mediterranean.

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MARR S.p.A. markets and distributes food products to operators in the restaurant business through a logistic and distributional network that is unique in Italy - 19 distribution centres, 4 cash & carry spots and an organization of 450 agents and over 400 motor vehicles.

The Company, Italy's unrivalled leader in the *foodservice* market, supplies about 30.000 clients (restaurants, chain hotels, fast food restaurants, pizza parlours, company canteens, schools, hospitals and public institutions) with a range of 10.000 products (fish, meat, dry and preserved products, cured meat and dairy products, fruit and vegetables), which are delivered within 24 hours from receipt of the order (12 hours for very fresh products).

The firm Marr S.p.a. closed the year 2001 with a consolidated turnover of 614.7 million Euros, marking a 12.2% increase compared to the previous year's 547.7 million Euros.

Castelvetro di Modena, July 18, 2002