

Press Release

Copenhagen, Denmark, October 31st, 2012

Columbus enters strategic alliance with Abecon in the Benelux

Today, Columbus has entered into a strategic alliance with Abecon in the Benelux. The strategic alliance will create a strong global partnership for the benefit of both companies and their customers and strengthen Columbus' international position. As part of the partnership Columbus and Abecon have signed a three year franchise agreement, which will ensure a successful and profitable alliance.

The strategic alliance will consist of:

Global Implementation Alliance

- Abecon will be the preferred partner and franchise taker for Columbus in the Benelux.
- Columbus will be the preferred partner for Abecon in all countries, where Columbus is represented.

Global Software Alliance

- Abecon will intensify the sale of Columbus Software.

Abecon acquires Columbus' subsidiary in Holland

- Columbus is transferring all business activities including customer contracts and contracts with employees in Holland to Abecon.

"In Columbus we will be able to service our customers better through this strategic alliance with Abecon who has a strong local presence in the Benelux. The combination of our skills will strengthen the position of both companies. I am therefore excited about the opportunities this global partnership will create for both our companies and our employees," says CEO Thomas Honoré, Columbus.

The agreement is subject to finalization 15th of November, 2012

Additional information

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Columbus®

Once you *know* how...

About Columbus

Columbus is the preferred business partner for ambitious companies worldwide within the food, retail and manufacturing industries. We exceed 20 years of experience and 6,000 successful business cases, and we are proud to offer our customers solid industry know-how, high performance solutions and global reach.

Read more at www.columbusglobal.com.

About Abecon

Abecon provides organizations with the design, realization and systems management of business solutions that are based on the Microsoft software platform. Originally founded in 1979, Abecon has established themselves as a Dutch Microsoft Gold Certified Partner with a specialization in Microsoft Business Solutions. Abecon's solutions are focused on customers in the professional services, healthcare, education, transport, wholesale and service industries.

Read more at www.abecon.nl