



Financing of Jambyl Cement's greenfield cement plant in Kazakhstan completed

Paris La Défense, 21 January 2009 - Vicat (NYSE Euronext Paris: FR0000031775 – VCT) announced that the financing of Jambyl Cement's greenfield cement plant in Kazakhstan has been completed. Vicat owns a 60% stake in the company.

The \$160m financing was arranged by International Finance Corporation (IFC), a subsidiary of the World Bank. It includes a first \$50m tranche financed by IFC and a second \$110m tranche syndicated with Calyon, Société Générale, Crédit Industriel et Commercial and Banca Intesa. Maturities are 10 and 7 years respectively.

IFC has also made an equity investment in this project, initiated by Vicat and its local partner Kazkommerts Invest, by taking a 10% stake in Jambyl Cement Company. As a result, Jambyl is now 60%-owned by Vicat, 30%-owned by Kazkommerts Invest and 10%-owned by IFC.

Guy Sidos, Vicat's CEO, made the following comments: "We are pleased to have completed, with IFC's support, the financing of our greenfield cement plant in Kazakhstan in line with the initial schedule and on terms that are favourable in the current environment. Our ability to secure financing and IFC's purchase of an equity stake in Jambyl Cement reflect both the quality of the project and the strong long-term potential of the Kazakh market."

Dimitris Tsitsiragos, IFC's Director for Global Manufacturing & Services, added that "This investment represents the continuation of a successful long-term partnership with Vicat. The project will set higher environmental standards for the country's cement sector, making use of clean technology and energy efficient processes."

About Vicat

The Vicat group employs **around 6,700 people** and generated **consolidated sales of €2.136 billion** in 2007 from its Cement and Concrete & Aggregates production activities, and from its Other Products & Services business.

It has a **presence in eleven countries**: France, Switzerland, Italy, the United States, Turkey, Egypt, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Kazakhstan and India. About 52% of its sales come from outside France.

The Vicat group is the heir to an industrial tradition dating back to 1817, when Louis Vicat invented artificial cement. The Vicat group was founded in 1853, and now operates in **three principal business segments**, namely **Cement, Ready-Mixed Concrete and Aggregates**, along with other activities that complement these core businesses.

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