

VAN HOUTTE INC.

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July 29, 2004

Canadian Securities Administrators

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re : Van Houtte Inc. (the "Corporation")
Notice Pursuant to National Instrument 51-102 - Continuous Disclosure - Obligations

We hereby advise that the Renewal Annual Information Form of the Corporation dated July 21, 2004 (the "AIF") has been filed under the filing type "Annual Information Form (NI 51-102)" on SEDAR Project 00671503. Please be advised that we intend to rely on the AIF for purposes of National Instrument 44-101 — Short Form Prospectus Distributions.

Yours truly,

(signed) Gail Bacon

Gail Bacon
Assistant Corporate Secretary