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ALS enters the Food Safety and Environmental markets in Italy with the acquisition of Leochimica SRL.

ALS Limited (ASX Code: ALQ) advises that it has acquired Leochimica SRL in Italy. Leochimica was founded in 1985 and operates a Food Safety and Environmental laboratory located in Zoppola in north-east Italy. Leochimica employs over 60 staff and provides a full range of services to food growers, processors, distributors and retailers, as well as environmental analytical services and technical training. Leochimica is recognised as a high technology, high quality laboratory that has seen its revenues growing at 15% per annum.

ALS has acquired 100% of the shares in Leochimica and the purchase includes the laboratory building and offices valued at €3 million.

Greg Kilmister, CEO of ALS, commented, "Leochimica is a great cultural fit for ALS and is an important further step in our global Life Sciences strategy; being an equal mix of food and environmental revenues. Italy is the fourth largest economy in Europe and having a hub analytical laboratory well placed in the north-east will allow ALS to develop its hub and spoke model to service all of north Italy. ALS expects to quickly develop a number of spokes in the region through greenfield development and smaller microbiology acquisitions."

"Leochimica will benefit from ALS' technical capabilities including our world class LIMS and Client Portal. The senior management team of Leochimica are remaining with ALS and are excited about the development opportunities ALS brings to the operations. In Europe, ALS now has approximately 3000 staff in its Life Sciences businesses."

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Further information:

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About ALS Limited

ALS is a global Testing, Inspection & Certification business. The company's strategy is to broaden its exposure into new sectors and geographies where it can take a leadership position.