



State Visit to Canada

of

Their Majesties the King and the Queen of the Belgians

11-17 MARCH 2018



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A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely Oslo, Norway, viewed from across a body of water. The city lights are reflected in the calm water. The sky is a deep blue. The word "BIOGRAPHIES" is overlaid in white, sans-serif capital letters in the center of the image. There are two small yellow horizontal lines: one above the letter 'I' and one below the letter 'P'.

BIOGRAPHIES



HIS MAJESTY
THE KING

HISTORY

- His Majesty the King was born in Brussels on 15 April 1960. He is the eldest son of King Albert II and Queen Paola and the grandson of King Leopold III and Queen Astrid.
- Following the abdication of his father, King Albert, Prince Philippe was sworn in before the combined chambers of parliament on 21 July 2013 as the seventh King of the Belgians.
- He married Mathilde d'Udekem d'Acoz in 1999.
- Prince Philippe was educated bilingually (in Dutch and French) at Belgian state primary and secondary schools, and then at the Belgian Royal Military Academy, a bilingual higher education establishment. Inspired by a passion for flying and space adventure since childhood, he chose to join the Air Force, where he qualified as a fighter pilot. He completed his military training with the para-commando course.
- He then left Belgium to continue his academic studies abroad. After one term at Trinity College, Oxford (United Kingdom), he spent two years at Stanford University in the USA, where he graduated with an MA in Political Science.
- Returning to Belgium in 1985, he began to learn about his country's political, social and economic realities. Over the next eight years he got to know Belgium and its people through numerous visits, meetings, conferences and missions. This gave him a thorough understanding of the country and its workings.
- Also during this time, the young Prince Philippe acquired an in-depth knowledge of areas of particular personal interest, such as history, literature and philosophy. His study tours enabled him to meet all kinds of committed people, both leaders and ordinary citizens. He also closely followed the European integration process.

- In addition, he gained various experiences in the humanitarian field.
- The death of King Baudouin in 1993 marked a turning point in the Prince's life. Following the accession of his father King Albert II, Philippe became heir apparent to the throne at the age of 33.
- From this time on, his public role became established. In line with the major issues of the time, his main areas of involvement were international missions to promote the Belgian economy and Belgium's image abroad, sustainable development, dialogue between Belgium's various communities, support for vulnerable people and the nurturing of talent. Prince Philippe engaged in close dialogue with politicians, granting them audiences and working alongside them on missions and other activities.

- Prince Philippe took over the Honorary Presidency of the Belgian Foreign Trade Agency (BFTA) in 1993. In this capacity, he led 85 economic missions abroad over the next 20 years. He built bridges between Belgian and foreign companies as well as between Belgian companies. Following his accession to the throne in 2013, he has remained Honorary President of the BFTA but has asked his sister Princess Astrid to represent him on economic missions.
- Another of Philippe's primary concerns is sustainable development. From 1993 to 2013, he was Honorary Chairman of the Federal Council for Sustainable Development, which brings together economic, social, environmental and scientific bodies from around the country to formulate recommendations to the federal government. In the same vein, he also agreed to become Honorary President of the International Polar Foundation.

● He has been active in supporting dialogue between Belgium's three language communities of French-, Dutch- and German-speakers. The Prince Philippe Fund was set up in 1998 to promote dialogue between citizens from the different communities, in order to foster greater mutual recognition and respect for their individual identities and cultures.

● Aware of the many possible forms of marginalization, the King takes every opportunity to meet with its victims. Here too, he experiences human frailty at first hand, whether it is caused by illness, social exclusion, accidents or natural disasters.

● The King supports Belgian talent in all its manifestations, including sportsmen and women, artists, scientists, explorers and gifted young people, and follows them all with great interest.

● King Philippe and Queen Mathilde combine their family life with ceremonial and official duties. They personally supervise the education of their four children, Elisabeth, Gabriel, Emmanuel and Eléonore. The children enjoy a multilingual upbringing and attend school in Dutch.

● Holidays are spent with family and friends. In their free time, the King and Queen enjoy reading and playing sport. The King goes running regularly and took part in the Brussels 20km race in May 2013 and 2014.



HER MAJESTY
THE QUEEN

HISTORY

- Her Majesty the Queen was born in Uccle on 20 January 1973. She is the daughter of Count and Countess Patrick d'Udekem d'Acoz.
 - She attended primary school in Bastogne and secondary school in Brussels, before studying speech therapy and psychology. The Queen worked as a speech therapist from 1995 to 1999.
 - She married Prince Philippe on 4 December 1999 and they have four children: a daughter Elisabeth (2001), now Duchess of Brabant, two sons Gabriël (2003) and Emmanuel (2005), and another daughter Eléonore (2008). As the mother of four young children, the Queen attaches great importance to her family.
 - The Queen assists the King in carrying out his functions as Head of State. These include numerous visits to institutions, contacts with the population, ceremonies in Belgium and abroad, state visits, promoting Belgium's image abroad, audiences with representatives of various groups in society and countless trips all over the country.
- Apart from her activities in the company of the King, the Queen also devotes time to issues that are close to her heart. She regularly visits social institutions and medical centers. These contacts help her to stay in touch with the people and their needs and requirements and with the many initiatives undertaken in Belgium to help others. The Queen attaches a great deal of importance to close contact with the population.
 - The Queen deploys the Queen's Charities to offer help to citizens who are struggling to cope with financial hardship in their daily lives and often turn to her as a last resort. She takes part in the social debate on subjects of relevance to the population. She has a particular concern for vulnerable people. As Honorary President of the Queen Mathilde Fund, the Queen endeavours to assist the weakest members of our society.

- The Queen is also concerned with a range of social issues including education, child poverty, intergenerational poverty, the position of women in society and literacy.
- The Queen is Honorary President of Child Focus, Foundation for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children. Children's well-being is for Her a fundamental principle and she dedicates herself in the fight against disappearances and all forms of sexual abuse.
- The Queen is Honorary President of UNICEF Belgium and of the Breast International Group (a non-profit organization for academic breast cancer research groups from around the world). She was the World Health Organization Europe's Special Representative for Immunization.

- As from 2014 the Queen has given Her High Patronage to the International Queen Elisabeth Music Competition founded in 1937 as an initiative of Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth and Belgian composer and violinist Eugène Ysaÿe.
- In 2016, the Queen was invited by the UN Secretary General to join the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Advocacy Group. This group of 17 eminent personalities supports the United Nations Organization in mobilizing the international community to take action to achieve the SDGs by 2030. The Queen received the Honorary National German Sustainability Award 2017 for her years of social and humanitarian commitment as well as her contribution to the debate on the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

● The Queen is a member of the Schwab Foundation Board for Social Entrepreneurship. She was a United Nations Emissary for the International Year of Microcredit 2005, which focused in particular on financial inclusion and financial literacy. The Queen also attends the annual World Economic Forum in Davos.

● Belgian development cooperation is an important issue for the Queen. She has undertaken a number of humanitarian missions, highlighting areas such as children's rights, health issues, poverty reduction, education, good governance, the empowerment of women, HIV/AIDS and orphans (UNICEF/UNAIDS), and non-communicable diseases.

● The Queen is a great believer in lifelong learning and as one of the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders has attended a number of leadership courses at the Harvard Kennedy School and Yale University.

● Besides Dutch and French, the Queen speaks English, Italian and some Spanish.

● The Queen has a broad interest in art and dance. She likes modern as well as classical music and plays the piano. She also loves literature. She is a keen cyclist, tennis player and swimmer, and enjoys nature and outdoor activities.



HE DIDIER REYNDERS
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Born in Liège on August 6th, 1958
Married – 4 children

GOVERNMENT POSITIONS

- Minister of Finance (1999 - 2011)
- Chairman of the Eurogroup (January - December 2001)
- President of the Ecofin (July - December 2001 / July 2010 - December 2010)
- Member of the G7 in 2001
- Chairman of the G10, which is the meeting of the main creditor States, in 2002
- Minister in charge of the Belgian Buildings Agency (2003 - 2011)
- Deputy Prime Minister since 18 July 2004
- Minister of Institutional Reforms (2004 - 2011)
- Minister in charge of the National Lottery, the Federal Holding and Investment Company (FHIC) and the insurance companies (2007- 2011)
- Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and European Affairs (2011 - 2014)
- Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs, in charge of Beliris and Federal Cultural Institutions since 11 October 2014

ACADEMICAL FUNCTIONS

- Lecturer at the Hautes Ecoles commerciales of Liège
- Staff member of the Public Law Department at the University of Liège
- Guest lecturer at the Université catholique de Louvain (Louvain business school (UCL))

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

- Chief of staff of the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and Institutional Reforms, Jean Gol (1987 - 1988)
- Member of the Liège Town Council (1988 - 2012)
- Leader of the MR Group of the Liège Town Council (1995 - 2012)
- Deputy Chairman of the MR (1992 - 2004)
- Member of Parliament since 1992
- Chairman of the PRL-FDF Group (1995 - 1999)
- Chairman of the Provincial and District

MR Federation (1995 - 2004)

- Member of the Bureau and Deputy Chairman of the Liberal International (2005 - 2011)
- Chairman of the Mouvement Réformateur (2004 - 2011)
- Member and Leader of the MR Group of the Uccle Town Council (since 3 December 2012)
- Chairman of the Brussels MR Federation (since 12 January 2013)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Lawyer (1981 - 1985)
- Director General of the Local Authorities Department of the Ministry of the Walloon Region (1985 - 1988)
- Chairman of the National Railway Company of Belgium (1986 - 1991)
- Chairman of the National Society of Airways (1991 - 1993)



HE GEERT BOURGEOIS

MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS
FLEMISH MINISTER FOR FOREIGN POLICY
AND IMMOVABLE HERITAGE

Born in Roeselare, July 6th, 1951

Master in Law, Ghent University

POLITICAL CAREER

Starting out his professional career as a lawyer and solicitor, Geert Bourgeois first acceded to politics in 1977, after having spent more than ten years at the service of the 'Vlaamse Beweging' (Flemish movement). He was first elected local councillor for the Volksunie party in Izegem before moving on to become alderman in this town. In 1995, he entered the Belgian House of Representatives, where he distinguished himself as a legal specialist. In 2000 he came at the helm of the Volksunie. After the break-up of this party, he founded the Nieuw-Vlaamse Alliantie (N-VA) in 2001 and became the party's first leader.

Geert Bourgeois is Minister-President of the Government of Flanders, in which he is also competent for foreign policy and immovable heritage.

Geert Bourgeois has been a minister in the Government of Flanders since 2004.

Over the years, his portfolio has included local and provincial government, public governance, foreign policy, civic integration, media, tourism, immovable heritage and the 'Vlaamse Rand' (ring of Flemish municipalities around the capital Brussels). In 2009, he became Vice-Minister-President. He has been Minister-president of the Government of Flanders since 2014.



HE RUDI VERVOORT
MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF
THE BRUSSELS-CAPITAL REGION

Born on November 20th, 1958

- Born on 20 November 1958 to a Dutch-speaking father and a French-speaking mother, Rudi Vervoort is what is typically called a “zinneke” [a person of mixed origin]. From a very young age, he followed current events and the political debate with passion thanks to his subscription to the daily *Le Soir*, which he asked his parents to get for him when he was in his teens. This enthusiasm for public affairs led him in particular to become president of the “Cercle de Droit” [Law Union] at the French-speaking Free University of Brussels (ULB) when he was a student. His political commitment then came naturally, because “when you study law, you understand very quickly the left/right stakes.” Rudi became a member of the Socialist Party at the age of 22.
- In 1989, he was elected municipal councillor in Evere, the municipality where he grew up and where he still lives. An alderman in 1993, he exercised his duties in sport, education, culture, then finance, before becoming mayor in 1998.
- In 1999, he was elected regional deputy and entered the Brussels Parliament. At the same time, he assumed the leadership of the Socialist Party group, which would drive him to defend and to turn the values of the Socialist Party into concrete measures for the benefit of our Region and its inhabitants. He was also a member of parliament in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation from 2004 to May 2013.
- In 2004, Rudi was elected Vice-President of the Brussels Federation of the Socialist Party and succeeded Philippe Moureaux.
- A pragmatic politician, he led the municipality in particular with the Dutch-speaking liberals. During the last municipal elections, he invited Guy Vanhengel (Open VLD) to appear alongside him on the Mayor’s List.
- The ever quiet and thoughtful appearance hides a devotee of the pleasures of life. A lover of good food and an unconditional fan of classical and contemporary rock music (Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, Radiohead, dEUS, ...), Rudi attends various festivals every year such as Rock Werchter. He is also a nature lover and a touring enthusiast. He climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in 2009. The father of three children, Rudi Vervoort is married to Nathalie.
- Since he arrived at the head of the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region in May 2013, Rudi Vervoort has given new impetus to governmental action. Keen to take up the challenges faced by the Region, the Minister-President has left his imprint on the Government of Brussels.
- His efforts in the last year of the 2009-2014 legislature convinced the denizens of Brussels, since they placed their trust in him in large numbers during the elections in May 2014. Rudi Vervoort will head the Government for the next five years. The Minister-President plans to continue to see through the projects he identified as taking priority in order to approve the daily life of the people of Brussels. The major stakes for the year to come include, by way of example, the demographic challenge, urban development, the improvement of the employment rate for the city’s inhabitants, the development of multimodal mobility, the construction and renovation of housing units and the improvement of the Region’s image in Belgium and abroad.



HE WILLY BORSUS

MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF THE WALLOON GOVERNMENT

Born in Pessoux (Ciney) on April 4th, 1962

Married - 3 children

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Higher vocational diploma in legal sciences obtained at the IESN (Namur)
- Extra training in European social law

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- Parliamentary attaché and employee in Belgian French-speaking non-profit sector (1995 - 1997)
- Secretary-general of a non-governmental organisation active in the youth sector and on an international level (1997 - 2001)
- Advisor for the office of Mr Michel FORET, Walloon Minister for Town and Country Planning, Urban Development and the Environment (2001 - 2004)

ENGAGEMENT AND POLITICAL FUNCTIONS

- Municipal councillor in Somme-Leuze (from January 1989 until October 2014)
- Mayor of Somme-Leuze (from 1995 until 2014)
- Provincial councillor in Namur (1994 - 2004)
- President of the provincial council of Namur (1995 - 2000)
- Walloon MP and MP of the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles (2004 - 2014)

- Head of the MR-group in the Walloon parliament (2009 - 2014)
- President of the MR-federation in the province of Namur (2004 - 2014)
- National executive vice-president of the MR (2009 - 2014)
- Federal Minister for Small Business Owners, SMEs, the Self-Employed, Agriculture and Social Integration responsible for the policy regarding the railway system and the regulation of railway and air traffic (2014-2017)
- Minister-President of the Walloon Government since 28/07/2017)

OTHER FUNCTIONS

- Administrator of several hospitals (CHR – AISBS – Vivalia (1991 - 2014))
- Administrator of companies active in the energy sector (2010 - 2014)
- Administrator of the Union des Villes et des Communes de Wallonie (1995 - 2014)
- Active member of the Sustainable Development Committee and subsequently of the
- Governance Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (2003 - 2014)

PUBLICATIONS

- “Appel pour le redressement de la Wallonie”, work co-written with Charles MICHEL (September 2013)
- “The European Charter of Local Self-Government in domestic law”, report presented at the 21st session of the Governance Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (29 September 2011)
- “Pour une politique de la biodiversité en milieu urbain”, report presented at the spring session of the Sustainable Development Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (5 February 2008)



HE RUDY DEMOTTE
MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF THE WALLONIA-
BRUSSELS FEDERATION GOVERNMENT

Born in Renaix, June 3rd, 1963

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- General Secretary of the Public Social Aid Centre of the City of Lessines in political leave since 1995.
- Federal representative of the Ath – Tournai – Mouscron district from May 1995 to June 1999 (Agriculture, Finances and Budget, Constitution Revision Commission)

POLITICAL AND EXTRA-PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- National Chairman of the Young Socialists from 1986 to 1992
- Member of the Socialist Party Board since 1988
- Political secretary of the Young Socialists of western Hainaut Federation from 1992 to 1995
- Chairman from 1993 to 1999 of the Socialist Party Federation of the triple district of Ath – Tournai – Mouscron
- Chairman of the Social Party Youth Commission from April 1995 to 1999
- City councillor in Flobecq from 1994 to 2010
- Mayor of Flobecq until January 2011
- Vice-Chairman of the EGTC “Eurométropole Lille Kortrijk Tournai”

from 28 January 2008 to 25 March 2011, and since June 2012

- Chairman of the EGTC “Eurométropole Lille Kortrijk Tournai” from 25 March 2011 to June 2012
- Chairman of the Picardy Wallonia Growth Council since June 2006
- Mayor of the City of Tournai since October 2012
- Vice-Chairman of the EGTC “Eurométropole Lille Kortrijk Tournai” from July 2016

GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS

- Federal Minister for the Economy and Scientific Research from July 1999 to April 2000
- Minister for the Budget, Culture and Sports of the French community from 4 April 2000 to July 2003
- Minister for Culture, Budget, Public Service, Youth and Sports of the French Community from 1 January 2001 to July 2003
- Federal Minister for Public Health and Social Affairs from July 2003 to July 2007
- Minister-President of the Walloon Government from July 2007 to July 2014
- Minister-President of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French Community) since March 2008

SKILLS

- Government policy and communication coordination
- Intra-Belgian relations including proceedings before the Concertation Committee of the Federal Government, Community and Region Governments, operation of institutions and relations with the Parliament
- International relations including relations with European institutions, development aid and cooperation
- Coordination of files relating to European structural funds, implementation and assessment thereof, including the relations with the European, national and regional institutions
- Assessment, prospective and statistics
- University hospitals and revalidation agreements entered into with university hospitals
- The Royal Academy of Medicine
- Approval and quotas of health care trades
- General Medicine Scientific Society
- Government policy coordination relating to child right completion



HE OLIVER PAASCH
MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN-
SPEAKING COMMUNITY OF BELGIUM

Born in Malmedy on October 21st, 1971
Married, 2 children

STUDIES

- **1995:** Law degree, University of Namur and Louvain-la-Neuve
- **1997:** Banking training at Crédit Général (Namur) and ABB (Brussels)

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- **1995-1997:** Credit analyst at Crédit Général in Liège
- **1997-1998:** Bank manager at Crédit Général in Malmedy
- **1998-2003:** Business relationship manager and assistant branch manager at the Business Centre of CBC bank in Verviers
- **2003-2004:** Manager of the Business Centre of CBC bank in Verviers
- **2004-2009:** Minister of Education and Scientific Research
- **2009-2014:** Minister of Education, Training and Employment
- **Since June 2014:** Minister-President

ACTIVITIES AND MANDATES

- **1991-1992:** President of the General Student Assembly of Namur (AGE)
- **1993-1994:** President of the German-speaking students association in Louvain-la-Neuve (EUMAVIA)
- **1994-1995:** Vice-President of the association of Walloon students in Louvain-la-Neuve (FEDE)
- **1994:** Founding member of the movement “Youth for Europe” (Jugend für Europa, JUROPA)
- **1997-2004:** Member of the Council of the German-speaking Community of Belgium
- **Since October 2017:** President of the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)

DECORATIONS AND DISTINCTIONS

- **Poland:** Commander’s Cross with Star of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland
- **The Netherlands:** Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Orange-Nassau
- **Germany:** Knight Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany
- **France:** Officer of the Order of Academic Palms



HE PIETER DE CREM
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN TRADE

Born on July 22nd, 1962 in Aalter
Married to Caroline Bergez and father of Constantijn,
Alicia and Victoria

EDUCATION

- Master of Arts, Romanic Philology at KU Leuven – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Master of European and international Law at VUB – Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Alumnus of Harvard Business School – Advanced Management Program

PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE

- Special Envoy of the Federal Government for the research project MYRRHA of the Belgian Nuclear Research Center (2017 -)
- Secretary of State for Foreign Trade (Oct 2014 -)
- Deputy Prime Minister (March 2013 - Oct 2014)
- Minister of Defence (Dec 2007 - Oct 2014)
- Member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

- Commander in the Order of Leopold
- Chairman of the Commission for the Interior at the House of Representatives between 10 June 2007 and 21 December 2007
- Chairman of CD&V parliamentary party at the House of Representatives between 31 May 2003 and 21 December 2007
- CD&V Member of Parliament of the constituency for Oost-Vlaanderen (East –Flanders) since 2003, re-elected in 2007
- CVP Member of Parliament of the constituency for Ghent-Eeklo, 1995, re-elected in 1999
- Mayor of Aalter since 1995, re-elected in 2000, 2006 and 2012
- Advisor in “De fabrieken van de Gebroeders De Beukelaar”, 1993-1994
- Assistant in Roularta Media Group , 1987-1989
- Attaché at the private office of Minister of Defence Leo Delcroix, 1992-1993

- Attaché at the private office of Prime Minister Wilfried Martens, 1989-1992
- Chairman of the youth CVP (Christelijke Volkspartij – Christian People’s Party) section Ghent–Eeklo , 1989-1995

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- Pieter De Crem is a Dutch native speaker. He speaks and writes fluently in French, English, German, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese. He also has a basic knowledge of Russian.



An aerial photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. In the foreground, there are several multi-story buildings, including a prominent circular one on the left. In the background, a river or bay is visible with a bridge. The text "OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONS" is overlaid in the center in a white, sans-serif font. Two thin yellow horizontal lines are positioned above and below the text.

OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONS

ROYAL PALACE

His Majesty the King of the Belgians heads the official Belgian delegation. State Visits are the highest level of diplomatic representation. His Majesty the King is actively involved in the preparation and coordination of State Visits. During these visits the King represents His country and its citizens.

The King is assisted by a staff, the Household of His Majesty the King,

consisting of five departments: the King's Cabinet, the General Secretariat, the King's Military Household, the King's Civil List and the Queen's Secretariat.

All five departments are represented at this State Visit. The General Secretariat is in charge of the overall coordination of the activities of Their Majesties the King and the Queen, both in Belgium and abroad, taking care of programming as

well as protocol and logistical aspects. The Secretary General of the Household of His Majesty the King is in charge of the coordination of the agenda of the Royal Couple's activities and proposes civil society activities and meetings. He also chairs the internal coordination meetings at staff level.



POL DE WITTE

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING

 Rue Brederode 16
1000 Brussels

 www.monarchie.be/en



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE (FPS) FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOREIGN TRADE & DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The **Federal Public Service (FPS) Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation** manages Belgium's foreign relations. Belgium's Foreign Affairs network is comprised of 118 embassies, consulates and representations throughout the world.

As an organisation with solid and long-standing experience in foreign relations,


the FPS channels its expertise into actions geared towards the following objectives:

- - Defending Belgian interests abroad.
- - Promoting a stable, fair, and thriving world community based on solidarity.
- - Combating global poverty by coordinating a high-level of cooperation.



DIRK ACHTEN

SECRETARY GENERAL

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FLANDERS DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS)

The **Flanders Department of Foreign Affairs** is in charge of all of the Government of Flanders' international relations. It coordinates Flanders' international and European activities and therefore takes the lead in Flanders' relations with foreign governments, the European Union and international organizations.

More specifically, the following tasks have been entrusted to the Department: the development of cooperation with foreign partners; the rule-making process and transposition of European legislation and the conclusion and ratification of international treaties; international and European trade policy; Flanders' development cooperation, with a geographical focus on Southern Africa;

monitoring import, export and transfer of weapons and strategic goods from Flanders. To execute these tasks, the Department has a budget of around 46 million euros and it relies on the enthusiasm and dedication of its personnel, which includes:


- around a hundred staff members at its head office in Brussels;
- the interdepartmental Flemish team at the Belgian permanent representation to the European Union in Brussels, led by a General Representative;
- ten General Representations of the Government of Flanders, accredited to the governments of neighbouring countries and a number of well-chosen countries and international organizations: The

Netherlands, The Hague - Germany, Berlin - France, UNESCO, OECD and Council of Europe, Paris - United Kingdom, London - Spain, Madrid - Poland and the Baltic States, Warsaw - Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and Czech Republic, Vienna - United States of America and Canada, New York - Southern Africa, Pretoria - the United Nations, Geneva

The Flanders Department of Foreign Affairs cooperates with the agencies Flanders Investment & Trade and VISITFLANDERS in order to realize Flanders' international ambitions.



KOEN VERLAECKT
SECRETARY GENERAL

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FLANDERS INVESTMENT & TRADE (FIT) (GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS)

The **Flanders Investment & Trade agency** promotes sustainable international business, in the interest of both Flanders-based companies and Canadian enterprises. Whatever sector you are involved in, Flanders Investment & Trade will help you establish contact with the Flemish companies you are looking for. This includes not only products or services you may be sourcing, but also various types of business relationships, from joint ventures to technology transfers. At another level Flanders Investment & Trade enhances

Flanders' position as the gateway to Europe for inward investors. The agency identifies, informs, advises and supports overseas enterprises by establishing production and research facilities, contact centers, headquarters, logistics operations and the like in Flanders, the northern region of Belgium. Do visit our website and discover our worldwide network. With over 100 offices we are bound to be conveniently located near you. In Canada you can visit our office in Montreal.



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FLANDERS
INVESTMENT
& TRADE



Flanders
State of the Art

WALLONIA EXPORT-INVESTMENT AGENCY (AWEX) WALLONIE-BRUXELLES INTERNATIONAL (WBI)

The **Wallonia Export-Investment Agency (AWEX)** is the governmental agency of Wallonia in charge of promoting foreign trade and attracting foreign investment. On the one hand, AWEX provides Wallonia-based companies with a wide range of export-oriented services; on the other hand, AWEX is the one-stop shop for foreign investors interested in investing in Wallonia.

Wallonia-Brussels International (WBI) is the public body in charge of international relations of Wallonia and the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. It acts as the instrument of international policy for the French-speaking people in Belgium in various areas, such as scientific research, innovation, economy, environment, sustainable development, culture, education, etc.

AWEX and WBI rely on a network of representatives on the 5 continents.

Wallonia-Brussels Campus (WB Campus) is the agency for promoting higher education of Wallonia and Brussels abroad. WB Campus works in close collaboration with higher education institutions to promote the higher education of French-speaking Belgium on the international stage and support foreign students (www.studyinbelgium.be).



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www.wallonia.be
www.wbi.be



BRUSSELS INVEST & EXPORT - FOREIGN TRADE AND INVESTMENT SERVICE FOR THE BRUSSELS-CAPITAL REGION

Brussels Invest & Export is the foreign trade and investment department of the Brussels-Capital Region. It aims to promote the internationalization of the Brussels economy.

Brussels Invest & Export assists Brussels-based companies operating in foreign markets. Almost ninety economic and trade commissioners across all continents provide free guidance to SMEs, target potential local prospects and partners, organise

matchmaking events, etc. Concrete initiatives in Brussels and abroad include trade missions, contact days, invitations of decision makers and collective stands at international trade fairs.

Another mission of Brussels Invest & Export is to attract foreign investors to Brussels and to provide them with support, should they decide to locate their business in the Brussels-Capital Region. To enable investors to assess the benefits of

establishing in the capital, Brussels Invest & Export offers them a 'Welcome Package' which includes an equipped office space at no cost for a three-month period and a broad range of services.

Since last 1st January, Brussels Invest & Export is part of hub.brussels, which is the result of its merge with two other Brussels economic development agencies (Impulse and Atrium).



BÉNÉDICTE WILDERS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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BELGIAN FOREIGN TRADE AGENCY

The **Belgian Foreign Trade Agency (BFTA)** operates at the service of three Regional bodies for export promotion: Flanders Investment & Trade, Brussels Invest & Export and the Wallonia Export-Investment Agency (AWEX), as well as at the service of the FPS Foreign Affairs. The activities of the Agency were stipulated in the Cooperation Agreement of May 24th 2002 between the Federal

Government and the Regions. The Agency organises joint economic missions at the request of its partners and contributes since 2015, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to the logistical organisation and the economic aspects of Belgian State Visits.


The BFTA also runs an information centre and diffuses international business opportunities for the Regions to companies

through the mobile application Trade4U. The database containing Belgian exporters is always updated thanks to the regular exchanges with the Regions. Finally, the BFTA offers also information on foreign markets: from studies within the framework of economic missions to national and international statistics and legal advice on regulations regarding foreign trade.



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VISIT.BRUSSELS

VISIT.**BRUSSELS** is the Brussels-Capital Region's agency responsible for the communication and promotion of tourism and culture in the capital. Its objective is to promote and reinforce the image of the capital of 500 million Europeans and increase the number of visitors to the 19 communes of the Brussels-Capital Region. visit.brussels' activities are based around five central pillars, the purpose of each being to help visit.brussels achieve its missions.

These missions are centred on promotion and communication, and fit within the framework of an affinity marketing strategy that targets the members of different communities by focusing on their interests (contemporary art, comic strips, Art Nouveau and Art Deco, jazz, surrealism, Europe, gastronomy, etc.) or the kind of potential visitor they might be (congress goer, international association, families, LGBT community, etc.) and showcasing Brussels' advantages for each of those communities.

The five pillars are:

- Destination Management Culture & City Life
- Destination Management Convention & Association
- Sales & Marketing
- Events
- Operating & Finance



PATRICK BONTINCK

CEO



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BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL

Brussels International was set up to develop a coherent foreign policy at the Brussels-Capital Region. Within the Brussels Regional Public Service, it is tasked with coordinating the Region's relations and representation around the world.

The activities of Brussels International are spread over five areas:

- Bilateral Relations of the Brussels-Capital Region with cities, provinces and regions around the world, mostly based on a cooperation agreement;

the Brussels-Capital Region has now concluded 25 bilateral cooperation agreements, among others with Québec;

- development Cooperation policy of the Brussels-Capital Region;
- Relations with international networks of which the Brussels-Capital Region is a member (Eurocities, Metropolis and the Assembly of European Regions) and with other international organisations in which the Brussels-Capital Region is represented, as a federal entity (the Council of Europe, OECD, Benelux, UN,

etc.);

- European Affairs, including the Delegation of the Brussels-Capital Region in the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU;
- Processing applications for import, export and transit for arms and dual-use goods to, from and through the Brussels-Capital Region, in compliance with the ethical arrangements provided for by law.



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EMBASSY & CONSULATE GENERAL



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A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely Pittsburgh, with numerous skyscrapers and buildings illuminated. The lights from the buildings and streetlights are reflected in the water in the foreground. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall scene is vibrant and urban.

ECONOMIC DELEGATION

2 BRIDGE

2 Bridge provides multi-disciplinary services in drug discovery, pre-clinical, CM&C and clinical development, registration and life-cycle management.

The 2 Bridge tiger teams have expertise within three key domains:

- Pre-clinical development
- Clinical program and study management
- CM&C chemical and formulation development and registration

Through strategic and trusted partnerships with expert teams in other domains, we can offer a full 'drug development service'.

Services include:


- Drug Development Strategy & Project Management
- Scientific and Regulatory writing
- Due Diligence & Opportunity Scouting
- Coaching & Training



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2 BRIDGE
Science to Life

2HOUSES

2houses is a web platform and a mobile app designed to help divorced and separated parents to communicate and get better organized for the welfare of their children. The 140,000 families registered around the world make it the tool of reference for single-parent or blended families wishing to move towards healthy and stress-free communication.

Products & services: 2houses is a suite of specific tools that help parents to manage their custody calendar, keep track of shared expenses and share school and medical information. Web, iOS & Android.



GILL RUIDANT

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ACTITO (CITOB)

ACTITO is a European leading provider of Cloud-based Marketing Automation solutions based in Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium) with offices in France, Netherlands and Canada. ACTITO counts

more than 70 highly skilled employees and serves demanding marketers worldwide to help them personalize communications with their customers.



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AD HOC CLINICAL

Ad Hoc Clinical is a privately owned CRO rendering services to pharma, biotech and medical device companies as well as to other CRO's.

Ad Hoc Clinical has participated in large national and international trials from First in Man studies to Post Marketing Registries. Through the years Ad Hoc Clinical has acquired a broad experience in interventional and non-interventional studies.

Ad Hoc Clinical assists in the set-up and organisation of clinical research through staffing solutions, regulatory services, clinical monitoring, site management, project management, planning and GCP auditing activities.

For the last 8 years, Ad Hoc Clinical has been a valued partner to dozens of international clients, having provided services for more than 175 clinical trials across a number of important therapeutic

areas including: oncology, urology, neurology, dermatology, immunology, infectious diseases, metabolic diseases, orthopaedics, ophthalmology and in vitro diagnostics medical devices.

Based in Belgium, Ad Hoc Clinical has operational activities all over Europe.



NANCY COTTIGNY

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AGILEMAKER

AGILEmaker Belgium was founded in January 2014 with the strong conviction that Agility was the future key driver of organizational performance in a “VUCA world” (i.e. Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous), the world in which companies are evolving. We define ourselves as organizational architects, leveraging collective intelligence, meaning, autonomy and collaboration: we foster and facilitate

collaboration crossing functional and company boundaries.

We are specialized in change management and the implementation of complex projects. We orient our approach on a “mean-seeking” basis, fostering a questioning mindset we engage everyone in our culture of discovery and experimentation and strive to position all our stakeholders as change actors.

Our approach is also holistic by nature since we strive to identify the best leverages and ways to optimize results. Human-centric, our approach relies on human intelligence, inviting everyone in the organization to identify weak signals of a trend at play, make sense, and have the freedom required to act on it.



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ALTISSIA INTERNATIONAL

Altissia International is a company that specializes in the creation, implementation and success of customized, contextualized, mobile and humanist language projects for the educational, professional and institutional domains.

Its headquarters is based on the university campus of Louvain-La-Neuve (Belgium), and its institutional shareholder is the CLL (Language Centre of the Université

Catholique de Louvain). Altissia's activities and structural presence extend across the world: Belgium, France, Spain, Italy, Morocco, Indonesia, Singapore, Peru, Brazil and Canada.

Altissia's mission is to offer academic, effective and fun language learning to the widest possible audience. We want to provide learning that is linked to the ideas of mobility, immersion, contextualization


and personalization, and is associated with the keywords Innovation, Research and Development (IRD). Above all, we respect socio-cultural differences and reflect a humanistic approach to education.

Altissia is recognized worldwide for its linguistic citizens projects, including Erasmus + OLS, OLS for Refugees, Wallangues and Brulingua.



NICOLAS-LOUIS BOËL

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AMB - ECOSTERYL

Founded in 1947, AMB s.a. is a private Belgian company specialized in manufacturing machines for the medical and environmental fields. We have designed four patented devices (Ecosteryl 75, Ecosteryl 125, Ecosteryl 250 and Ecosteryl 500) which enable the treatment of contaminated medical waste without any polluted discharge, through a microwave technology.

AMB-Ecosteryl process consists of the shredding and gradual heating of medical waste up to a temperature of 100°C which is maintained for close to one hour. The system is designed to work in a continuous process and allows large capacities of treatment, i.e. up to 100 kg, 150 kg, 300 kg or 600 kg per hour respectively.

AMB-Ecosteryl offers a unique eco-friendly alternative to incineration and steam-based treatments without any odors, rejects, pollution and using only electricity. Our customers are service providers involved in hazardous waste collection and treatment, medium/large size hospitals, municipalities and governments.



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ARCO INFORMATION

Arco Information is specialised in digital transformation of documents/data.

We capture data from all kind of sources, (scanned paper, websites, databases, sensors), transform this data to be used in

a back-end application (including big data), and then deliver it again to users in a way they need it on the platform they want: print, mail, DOCCLE, POM, etc.

Areas we cover: Invoice handling (both paper and EDI) across industries; local and federal government, banking, insurance, construction, health care and smart cities.



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Arco
digital paperflow

ARDO

Ardo, a family owned company, began its activities in the world of vegetables in the 1950s, growing and trading vegetables at the family farm near the village of Ardooie in Belgium. Over the following years, Ardo developed its production and sales of frozen vegetables throughout Europe; today Ardo has 20 production and packing units in 8 European countries. Each year the group grows, freezes and sells 780,000 tons of fruit, vegetables, pasta and rice


to 58 countries, with a turnover of 868 million euros. Ardo acquired in September 2017 a majority stake in VLM Foods, a well-established supplier of processed food in North America, headquartered in Montreal with sales of EUR 129 million (USD 143 million). The combination with Ardo's leadership in sustainable agriculture, quality processing and product innovation capabilities, will allow VLM Foods to accelerate its market penetration, and

provide Ardo with a strong North American platform. From the far north to the deep south, the name of Ardo is synonymous with exceptional quality and service. The Ardo product range offers a wide variety of frozen vegetables, vegetable mixes, vegetable preparations and fruit. Continuous innovation in developing products and production methods hand in hand with the customer ensures a fruitful association.



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We preserve nature's gifts


ATMOSPHERE ET BOIS

A meeting with a salvager of century-old loft barns in Canada sparked the idea of **Atmosphère & Bois** and its unique concept: salvaging and restoring old barn wood and using the beauty and charm of its colours, aged over the last century, for construction and decoration.



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ATMOSPHERE  BOIS

AVIABEL

Aviabel is an insurer and reinsurer that has specialised in aviation insurance since 1935. Aviabel is an important player in the European and global aviation market. It is renowned for its expertise, product range, service and international focus. An


insurer and reinsurer of the utmost financial solidity, Aviabel deserves its A-ratings from both Standard & Poor's and A.M. Best. It is the undisputed market leader in the Benelux region, under the trade name Aviabel in Belgium and NLP (Nederlandse

Luchtvaartpool) in The Netherlands. In 2017, Aviabel became an AXIS Capital company, opening a new chapter in its history, broadening its international reach and opportunities a.o. in Canada.



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AWDC (ANTWERP WORLD DIAMOND CENTRE)

The **Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC)**, is a private foundation that wants to further develop Antwerp as a world diamond centre. On the one hand our organisation tries to fulfil this goal by representing the sector in Belgium and abroad to public governments and professional organizations, and on the other hand by supporting the image of the sector.

We do the latter by promoting all kinds of activities in the jewellery and gemstones markets in order to optimise knowledge in and about the diamond sector.



ARI EPSTEIN

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AXXESS PARTNERS


Axxess Partners is an independent entrepreneurial corporate finance boutique specialized in cross-border mergers & acquisitions, and a founding member firm of ICFG International Corporate Finance Group, with 40 affiliated offices around the world. Additionally, the company acts as a private investor in cooperation with institutional and private equity houses.



FRÉDÉRIC AGNEESSENS

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BALTEAU

Customized overall solutions to support environmental performance: CMI Environment employs its expertise and innovative capacity to design complete, customized environmental solutions for water, air and waste treatment and energy efficiency:

- Industrial and municipal water treatment;
- Preventive and curative industrial and tertiary water treatment solutions;
- Corrosive, harmful and odorous waste gas treatment;

- Solid waste treatment: biomass, activated carbon (multiple hearth furnaces and straight furnaces – The Nesa Solution®);
- Energy efficiency solutions (hydro-electric, biomethanization, support for energy efficiency, reference trainers for Afnor).

The know-how and expertise of CMI Environment across the entire environmental field enable it to meet all the needs of communities and industrialists in

all sectors, by constantly adapting to the local economic and regulatory constraints. CMI Environment is able to intervene at any project level, from design to commissioning. The solutions apply to existing or new facilities.

CMI Environment is established in Belgium, France, Hungary and the United States. It relies on the worldwide network of the CMI Group to provide its expertise on all five continents.



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BANK DEGROOF PETERCAM

With a history dating back to 1871, **Degroof Petercam** is a leading independent financial institution offering services to private and institutional investors, as well as to organizations. Based in Brussels, we employ 1,400 seasoned professionals in Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and Hong Kong.

Our clients benefit from the best possible offering due to a unique services package combining private banking, institutional asset management, investment banking (corporate finance and financial intermediation) and asset services. We manage circa €55 billion in assets on behalf of private investors and families, companies, public and corporate pension funds, insurance companies and government and not-for-profit organizations.



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BARRY CALLEBAUT

With annual sales of about CHF 6.7 billion (EUR 6.1 billion / USD 6.8 billion) in fiscal year 2015/16, the Zurich-based **Barry Callebaut** Group is the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products – from sourcing and processing cocoa beans to producing the finest chocolates, including chocolate fillings, decorations and compounds.

The Group runs more than 50 production facilities worldwide and employs a diverse and dedicated global workforce of close to 10,000 people.

The Barry Callebaut Group serves the entire food industry, from industrial food manufacturers to artisanal and professional users of chocolate, such as chocolatiers, pastry chefs, bakers, hotels, restaurants or caterers. The two global brands catering

to the specific needs of these Gourmet customers are Callebaut® and Cacao Barry®.

The Barry Callebaut Group is committed to making sustainable chocolate the norm by 2025, helping ensure future supplies of cocoa and improving farmer livelihoods. It supports the Cocoa Horizons Foundation in its goal to shape a sustainable cocoa and chocolate future.



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BELBAL


Belbal is one of the largest global manufacturers and printers of latex balloons. We sell our products in over 60 countries to clients in the promotional and party industry.



BART VAN NUFFEL

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The Belbal logo, featuring the word "belbal" in a lowercase, blue, sans-serif font. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the letter "l".

BELBERRY PRESERVES

Belberry's story began in Courtrai in 1956 when André Vandererfven acquired a small grocery store dating back to the 19th century. At the same time, André started making fruit preserves for the local market. When his son, Thierry, took over in 1990, he started expanding the home-made recipes and exporting the delicious jams throughout Europe.

Today, Belberry is a modern company that's always looking for innovative food concepts for the gourmet market. We have created more than 200 recipes, from jams, to fruit sauces, ketchups, syrups and chutneys. Our products are sold to gourmet stores, department stores, premium supermarkets and luxury hotels. Belberry also produces semi-products for the meat, chocolate and

pharmaceutical industries. The family's philosophy hasn't changed in more than 60 years: selecting premium quality raw materials and keeping the best possible taste thanks to a high fruit percentage.



THIERRY VANDERERFVEN

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BELFIUS BANK

Belfius is the only integrated bank and insurance company that is 100% Belgian and present everywhere in Belgium. Belfius is a solid financial group wholly owned by the Belgian federal state, operating through a simple business model, with strong local anchoring and decision center in Belgium.

Belfius aims to be a sustainable and profitable financial player, supporting all segments of the Belgian economy. Belfius is the undisputed number 1 and strong historic partner for the Public and Social Sector and strongly placed in business-to-government matters. Belfius is a leading and trusted partners for enterprises, from SME to large corporations, and serving over 3 million

individuals through its physical distribution networks and best-in-class digital and mobile solutions.

Belfius has committed to strive for reaching the highest customer satisfaction and put sustainability and social engagement at the core of its values.



JOZEF CLIJSTERS

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BELVISION

Belvision is the Belgian production company of the publishing group DUPUIS. Belvision mainly produces animation, both for film and television. However, Belvision also produces live-action films and television series.


Most of the time, Belvision coproduces with foreign companies located mainly in Europe. Belvision coproduction investments in the productions are based both on public funds (tax shelter, regional funds) and its own investment.



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BESIX GROUP

BESIX Group is the largest private Belgian group operating in construction, concessions and property development sectors.

It profiles itself as a multi-services group. The Group was founded in 1909, since then it has grown steadily and impressively.

NV BESIX SA, its biggest subsidiary, is active in practically every field of construction.

In addition to the activities of BESIX and its other subsidiaries in Benelux-France, the Group is present in Eastern Europe, North and Central Africa and the Middle East,

via Six Construct, in Central Asia and Australia.

In 2016, the Group achieved revenues of EUR 2.4 billion.

BESIX has about 15,000 employees active in 22 countries on 4 continents.



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BIO PHARMA LOGISTICS

Our company is specialised in (bio) pharmaceutical shipments & clinical trials, warehousing and added-value services and has been a reference for many years in this niche market. For more than a decade we have been the preferred supplier of many high-end (bio) pharma & chemical companies. As an independent, ethical and multimodal company, with a worldwide

network of agents, our customers can rely on our expertise, global reach and experience.

For more than 20 years, we have served our customers thanks to our well-trained staff, high quality services and the ability to provide tailored, creative and competitive logistics solutions. **Bio Pharma Logistics** is ISO 14001 & ISO 9001 certified and all

of our procedures are in compliance with cGxP requirements.

Flexibility and responsiveness: that is what the fast-moving (bio)pharmaceutical, life sciences and chemical industry needs from its suppliers and that is exactly what Bio Pharma Logistics delivers!



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BIOPARK

The Biopark Charleroi is a biotechnology campus located close to the Brussels South Charleroi Airport in Belgium. Created by the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) in 1999, the **Biopark** is today the playground of more than one thousand people working in 3 research institutes, 47 companies, an incubator and a training center.

The presence of all these players on the same site is a valuable asset, with the interaction between these different entities playing a major role in establishing a true ecosystem.

The Biopark has thus become a top location for Research, Companies and Partnerships between universities, private and public institutions.



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BIOPARK
CHARLEROI BRUSSELS SOUTH

BIOWIN

BioWin is the reference player in the field of health biotechnology and medical technologies in Wallonia (a region located south of Brussels, in Belgium). The cluster federates all the Walloon stakeholders (companies, research centers and universities) involved in innovative R&D projects and/or training in the development of new products and services:

BioWin has defined 4 strategic development axes aimed to support Wallonia's academic and industrial excellence in the health sector but also to take up the challenges raised by an emerging industry with:

- Calls for R&D projects.
- International visibility and partnering/networking activities (in collaboration with AWEX).
- Tailor-made training programs which are specific to the needs of bioindustry.
- Support for the creation of collective infrastructures and technological platforms.



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BMI-SBI

The mission of the Belgian Corporation for International Investment (BMI-SBI) is to provide medium or long term co-financing to business ventures made by Belgian private companies abroad. **BMI-SBI** supports projects that are of general economic

interest, (to both Belgium and the host country), financially viable and that offer realistic prospects of profitability whilst respecting the principle of sustainable development and social corporate responsibility.



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BOENTJE CAFÉ (BANDE À BERNARD SPRL)

Boentje Café is the fruit of a crazy project: the opening of the first zero-waste coffeehouse in Brussels! Heaps of love and local produce, good for you and for the planet. Delicious unwrapped, without any needless waste. Prepare your mason jar and fall in love with sustainable food that tastes great!

By using only local produce from Belgium or Europe, we are diminishing our carbon footprint, while also ridding ourselves

of the packaging that sticks to the skin of products imported from far away. In a nutshell, short distribution channels without any ethical shortcuts.

At Boentje Café, we are also rethinking the traditional coffeehouse paradigm by serving our food and drinks in durable, reusable, eatable, compostable and returnable containers. Say goodbye to disposable cups, plastic straws and paper towels!

Finally, at Boentje Café, we love to repair our waste material, to use it in creative ways, or even to upcycle it, so as not to throw away anything. If this also appeals to you, come participate in our workshops, which will help you introduce the zero-waste lifestyle into your daily life. So... do you feel juiced up?



SANDRINE BELGRADO

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BORGINSOLE

BORGinsole, a company in Rotselaar, was founded in 2007 by Gratiënnie Sioncke and Paul Borgions (Master in Podiatry). Over the years they have been developing a product to help people optimize their body movement pattern which ultimately led to the development of the patented BORGinsole Insole. Gratiënnie's engaged management approach has already yielded some awards for the company, including


that for Best Female Entrepreneur in Belgium in 2015. BORGinsole works with 17 people and has 3 activities:

1. B2B Production Lab for insoles: at the moment for 80 podiatrists in Belgium, the Netherlands and France. BORGinsole has also been developing hard- and software to offer a total solution chain to podiatrists. (3D footscan system and 3D software to design the insole.)
2. B2C Podiatry Centre: Over the past 10 years, the company has enjoyed significant success at the international level with its patented podiatric BORGinsole intelligent foot orthotic. Clients are (top)athletes, children or people with pain of the foot, knee, hip, back, etc.).
3. B2B Biomechanica and human movement analysis Education Centre



GRATIENNE SIONCKE

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BORGinsole
INTELLIGENT FOOT

BROUWERIJ DE HALVE MAAN

“De Halve Maan” brewery is a well-known family brewery in Bruges, and has been in hands of the Maes and Vanneste families since 1856. The brewery is currently managed by the 6th generation brewers of this original family, and is still based on the original site in the city center of Bruges.

“Brugse Zot” and “Straffe Hendrik” are the 2 specialty beers that are brewed by the brewery, the beers are successfully exported to more than 30 countries worldwide, and have won several prestigious prizes in international competitions. Over the last decade, “De Halve Maan” brewery has probably been

one of Belgium’s fastest growing breweries with annual double-digit growth figures. Recently the brewery built a 3.2 km long underground pipeline in Bruges, to transport its beer from the historical brewery in the center to its bottling plant outside of town. This project is known to be the first underground pipeline in the world.



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BROUWERIJ L. HUYGHE

Brewery Huyghe has been an independent family-owned craft-brewery since 1654. 81% of the yearly production of 200,000HL is exported to more than 97 countries all over the world. Huyghe is known worldwide for its pink elephant, the symbol of its Delirium beers. Delirium

Tremens, a strong blond beer of 8.5 % ABV, has been voted best beer in the world. Apart from the pink elephant they produce a wide range of speciality beers such as La Guillotine and Abbey of Averbode and Mongozo gluten-free beers. Quality, respect for family traditions, sustainability, flexibility and innovation are the key values

of the brewery. Huyghe is also known for the Delirium Café in Brussels that carries more than 3000 beers and is franchised worldwide. Huyghe also produces Fruli, an exceptional strawberry white beer of 4.1 % ABV.

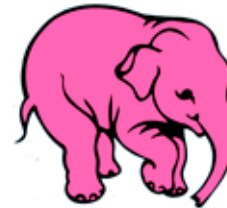


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 www.delirium.be



BROUWERIJ THE MUSKETEERS

TALKING BEER

The Musketeers Brewery creates specialty beers of outstanding and surprising character. The brewery takes inspiration from a number of styles and flavours. By doing so, the brewers are able to produce well-balanced and intelligent Belgian quality beers.

The Musketeers Brewery is well-known for its Troubadour range, with the flagship beer Troubadour Magma, and the beers from the Belgian Legends Series.



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BROUWERIJ VERHAEGHE VICHTE

Brewery Verhaeghe Vichte is a small family company in West-Flanders, Belgium. The Verhaeghe family have been brewers for centuries. Brewery Verhaeghe is still brewing its red-brown ales, the traditional beer of West-Flanders, following the authentic procedure of maturing these




ales in oak casks. Its most well-known beer is Duchesse de Bourgogne. Duchesse de Bourgogne is a sweet, fruity tasting beer with a pleasant sour, oakiness and a refreshing aftertaste. Duchesse de Bourgogne is brewed with reddish barley malts and spicy hops from Poperinge

(Belgium). After the first and the second fermentation, the beer intended for further maturation goes on to lager for several months in oak casks. Duchesse de Bourgogne is a refined reddish-brown beer typical of the region of West-Flanders, a ruby red jewel of 6.2 % alc./vol.



KARL VERHAEGHE

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BRUSSELS ENTREPRISES COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

BECI (Brussels Enterprises Commerce & Industry) is a partnership between the Chamber of Commerce and the Union of Enterprises in Brussels. BECI represents two thirds of jobs in Brussels and over 35,000 companies. It is a non-profit association, which is private, impartial and bilingual (French and Dutch). It is managed


and funded by its members. As a natural partner of all active companies in Brussels, BECI offers them three lines of support: it represents their individual and collective interests, provides advice and assistance through a wide range of services, and helps them to build and maintain their networks of contacts. Among other services, BECI

helps companies in Brussels to develop their international activities, as well as assisting foreign companies wanting to invest in Brussels. BECI regularly participates in economic missions and is part of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN). It also helps businesses handle international formalities.



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CANCHAM BELUX

Since its foundation in 1945, the long-term mission of **CanCham BeLux** (Chamber of Commerce Canada-Belgium-Luxembourg) has been and still is (1) the promotion and development of the economic relationship between Canada, Belgium and Luxembourg and (2) the development of a professional and relational network of various economic


operators active on the Canadian, Belgian, Luxembourg and also international markets. Networking is the key goal of the events organized by CanCham BeLux through high-level professional meetings with the business community and the public sector. In close cooperation with its partners, CanCham BeLux offers its members and


other professionals interested in the countries covered, useful contacts for legal, economic and investment information, research for grants or other public financial support. It also helps its members to find interesting business partners in various fields.



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CAPRION BIOSCIENCES

Caprion Biosciences is a contract research organization that provides specialized analytical services to the biopharmaceutical industry. With its head office in Montreal (Canada) and a subsidiary in Gosselies (Belgium), Caprion offers a menu of assays to characterize and monitor the immune response during

R&D, pre-clinical, and clinical development. Working with its large and medium-sized pharma partners, Caprion deploys its immune monitoring expertise to support development of cancer immune therapies and vaccines. Caprion also specializes in mass spectrometry analysis, with an expertise ranging from proteomic studies

to the development and deployment of bioanalytical assays for the measurement of biologics and biomarkers in a variety of sample types. Caprion operates under applicable GLP/GCP/GCLP regulations/guidelines, and is accredited by CAP/CLIA (Montreal) and ISO 17025 (Gosselies).



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CERTI-FED

Since its recapitalization in 2015 (25 million EUR), **Certi-Fed**, subsidiary of SFPI-FPIM, is active in the co-financing of business ventures by Belgian private companies abroad in cooperation with the Belgian Corporation for International Investment (SBI-BMI).


Certi-Fed has already provided subordinated loans / equity to 5 Belgian SMEs for an amount of 12 million EUR in order to help them to expand their activities abroad.

Certi-Fed can offer financial products like equity, quasi-equity and medium- and long-term loans to Belgian SMEs (up to 5 million EUR).



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CHOCOLATERIE GUYLIAN

Guylian is one of the best-selling Belgian chocolate brands. Founded in 1967, today Guylian has a team of 250 employees, and produces a wide range of Belgian chocolates in a state-of-the-art facility in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium. It continues to respect its traditional chocolate-making heritage whilst also remaining at the forefront of innovation. Recent innovations include the launch of a premium assortment Guylian Master's Selection in 2017.


The Sea Shell chocolates are Guylian's star product. Their in-house roasted hazelnut praliné filling is still produced according to the unique recipe in the traditional manner, in homage to the company's founding father. The secret method of roasting and caramelising hazelnuts gives Guylian chocolates their signature taste.

Around the world, Guylian is synonymous with high quality Belgian chocolates. A unique blend of West-African cocoa beans forms the basis of its premium Belgian chocolate, made with 100% pure cocoa butter. Guylian exports to more than 120 countries and is available in supermarkets, speciality stores and 75% of travel retail shops globally. Turnover is €80 million.



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GUYLIAN
The World's Favourite
Belgian Chocolates

CLEW SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE


We offer ICT total-solutions, soft- and hardware, so our clients only have one point of contact. We believe in customer intimacy and make it our priority to be available for our clients 24/7/365. We are literally always only a phone call away!

We are mainly active in the following sectors: food, production, construction, trade and services. Our clientele consists of liberal professionals, SMEs, but also multi nationals.



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COSMO GROUP

Cosmofarma is an innovative family business that produces natural health supplements and nutraceuticals. We are specialised in producing supplements for different sport disciplines, weight management and lifestyle.

We love and believe in what we do - producing the highest quality nutritional supplements. It is our goal to deliver a product which really makes a difference to a person's health.

In addition, we are specialized in producing supplements suitable for vegetarians and vegans.



PETRA VAN GUCHT

FOUNDER - MASTER OF BIOCHEMISTRY



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www.cosmofarma.be; www.bsfood.eu



COSUCRA GROUPE WARCOING

We think food better. Naturally.

At **Cosucra**, we want to think about more than just producing food components. To think with our customers by helping them in

the technical and nutritional development of their recipes. We experiment with their product composition in our own laboratory. We also want to think about food to

improve it and make it better able to meet consumer expectations.



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WE THINK FOOD BETTER. NATURALLY

DESOBRY

Since 1947, the **Desobry** biscuiterie has produced some of the best cookies in the world. Taste, delicacy and character built the reputation of the Belgian “Maître Biscuitier”. Today, we continue to follow the

same principle and we still bake biscuits with the best ingredients creating more than 35 sumptuous varieties. A family owned business, Desobry’s quality is unanimously recognized in Belgium, the

country of biscuits and chocolate, as well as abroad, where the company sells 80% of its production. We offer the “best of both worlds” – real Belgian chocolate and top-quality biscuits.



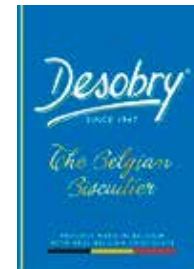
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DHOLLANDIA

The company was founded in 1968, in Belsele, by Omer Dhollander and his wife. He started first with installing tail lifts from a German brand, then quickly moved on to assembling his own tail lift brand which he baptised **“DHOLLANDIA”** – as he saw this market was growing.


It is now lead by his 2 children Jan Dhollander and Nancy Dhollander, second generation, who are expanding the company with service and selling points in 65 countries and production facilities in 5 countries. Besides tail lifts for trucks and vans, we also make lifts for disabled people.

We are a niche player, and in this niche, we are one of the biggest world players. Our intention is to grow the company organically by investing more in the North-American market over the coming years. We started distributing our tail lifts in Canada through our fully owned distribution company in 2013, based in Montreal. Today we have service points all over Canada with main distributing bases in Montreal and Toronto.



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DOGSTUDIO

Dogstudio is a multi-award-winning, beer-loving Belgian digital agency. Our middle-sized team of passionate individuals are quality-driven.

We are designers, developers, toy benders, music fanatics, party harders, moms, dads, freaks and nerds. We respect a quality-driven approach.

We proudly work with Microsoft, The Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, The Kennedy Center in Washington, Dragone, Quanta Magazine, KIKK Festival, etc. We have offices in Belgium and Chicago.



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D-TEACH

D-Teach stands for Digital Teaching and offers personalized online learning via virtual classes and experienced teachers.

All you need is a webcam, a device and the Internet. D-Teach is a bridge organization between Belgium and abroad and enables rapid integration into the local or foreign life for families who move.



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DUGARDYN & PARTNERS LAW FIRM

Dugardyn & Partners is a Brussels-based law firm which offers legal advice and services in business law and related areas, at national, European and global level, for companies and organizations active in a


large variety of industries. As traditionally the Belgian market very much relies on international trade, we have for a long time now been focusing our services on export-related matters and helping clients

to handle the challenges or opportunities of doing business in foreign markets. In that context we can rely on a longstanding network of partner firms in all key markets.



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Dugardyn
& Partners

EDPO (EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION OFFICE)

EDPO's mission is to enable non-European companies to comply with the new European Union (EU) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which will come into effect on 25 May 2018. The GDPR extends to non-European companies that regularly provide goods or services to persons in the EU or that monitor the

behaviour of persons in the EU. The GDPR also requires that non-European companies appoint a representative in the EU to act as a point of contact for customers in the EU and for EU data protection authorities. EDPO was established in Brussels to respond to this new legal framework and to provide advice, assessment and

representation services to non-European companies that have to comply with the GDPR. EDPO's team of experts creates value for non-European companies by ensuring legal certainty and by protecting them from sanctions that can reach up to 20 million EUR or 4% of worldwide turnover, whichever is highest.



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EPOINT

e-Point strives to create a clear, understandable and unique visualization of data from point of care devices. e-Point specializes in back-end services (cloud services) and clinical data visualization for chronic disease management. Data


is collected both by wireless devices and patient-reported through online questionnaires. Functionalities also include interfaces for professional clinicians' feedback, so the tele-monitoring processes can be adjusted and refined. e-Point has

recently started a project with the Faculty of Medicine of King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, monitoring 125 pregnant women with diabetes.



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EUROPEAN BUSINESS SUMMIT

Fifteen years after its creation, the **European Business Summit** (EBS) has become a key meeting place for business leaders and decision-makers in the EU. EBS puts Europe's top priorities into the spotlight, by providing a platform for business leaders, policy-makers, think

tanks, civil society and academics where key issues for economic growth and the wellbeing of society are debated. EBS puts influencers and policy-makers from contrasting perspectives together, giving a voice to all sides of the debate.

The EBS is proud to acknowledge the distinguished patronage of His Majesty the King of the Belgians as well as the support of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the FEB (Federation of Enterprises in Belgium) and BusinessEurope.



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**EUROPEAN
BUSINESS
SUMMIT**

FEDERAL HOLDING AND INVESTMENT COMPANY (SFPI-FPIM)

The Federal Holding and Investment Company (SFPI-FPIM) centrally manages the federal government's shareholdings, cooperates with the government on specific projects and pursues its own investment policy in the interests of the Belgian economy.

The core business of the SFPI-FPIM, on the one hand as an investment company and on the other hand as a holding company, is as follows:

- investing in companies with an attractive social value in one of the priority sectors, which the SFPI-FPIM has set itself as an objective;
- acquiring equity in companies that are of strategic importance as far as federal policy is concerned, either making use of their own funds or by using funds that the State provides per project. In the latter case, the SFPI-FPIM acts "on a delegated assignment".

For the 2016 business year, the partitioning of the different segments has led to the following results:

investment company	317 million €
holding company	1.090 million €
delegated assignments	15,8 billion €



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sfpi  **fpim**
SOCIÉTÉ FÉDÉRALE DE PARTICIPATIONS ET D'INVESTISSEMENT
FEDERALE PARTICIPATIE - EN INVESTERINGSMAATSCHAPPIJ

FEDERATION OF ENTERPRISES IN BELGIUM (FEB)

The **Federation of Enterprises in Belgium (FEB)** is the only multisector employer organisation representing companies in Belgium's three regions. FEB represents more than 50,000 companies, accounting for 75% of employment in the private sector.


FEB promotes and defends the interests of those companies in nearly 150 federal, European and international bodies, with a view to creating an optimum business and investment environment.

FEB's activities are underpinned by its thorough knowledge of the sector – thanks to the expertise of its member federations – and by key values such as the social market economy, sustainable development, business ethics, good governance, dialogue and self-regulation.



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FEVIA

FEVIA is the federation of the Belgian food & drinks industry. FEVIA represents companies and industry associations active in the production and processing of food and beverages. FEVIA numbers 650 member companies, including both large companies and SMEs. FEVIA defends the

interests of the Belgian food industry and acts as interlocutor for political and socio-economic institutions, in economic and environmental matters, labour relations, nutritional policy and international business. Half of the Belgian food industry's turnover is generated through export. FEVIA

and its members position Belgian food and drinks internationally with the collective promotional brand "Food.be – Small Country. Great Food", which highlights the diversity, quality and innovative character of Belgian food and drinks.



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FEVIA

Federatie Voedingsindustrie
Fédération de l'Industrie Alimentaire



FLUXYS

Fluxys is a Belgium-based, fully independent gas infrastructure group. The company is a major gas transit operator, offering gas transmission, gas storage and terminalling of liquefied natural gas (LNG). Present across Europe, the company focuses on safe, efficient and sustainable operations, quality services in line with

market expectations and creating long-term value for its shareholders.

Besides its pipeline, storage and LNG terminalling assets in Belgium (owned and operated by Fluxys Belgium), Fluxys' partnerships include ownership in the Interconnector and BBL pipelines linking the UK with mainland Europe,

the Dunkirk LNG terminal in France, the NEL and TENP pipelines in Germany, the Transitgas pipeline in Switzerland, the Swedegas infrastructure in Sweden and the TAP pipeline from Turkey to Italy under construction to bring gas coming from Azerbaijan and potentially other sources to Europe.



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FOR GOOD

For Good is an impact driven enterprise striving to improve the ecological footprint of its users, once and for good. The founders of For Good developed an automated service (smartphone app and online platform) that helps users evolve towards a more sustainable way of living by tracking and adjusting their behaviour in terms of transport, food and energy consumption. The users become more

active in the growing For Good community in a fun and easy way.

In addition, For Good also developed Challenges so cities, schools, companies and organisations can also start working on their footprint. The Challenge is like a sustainability game in which several teams compete with one another to save as much CO2 as possible. Not only can they achieve


CO2-reduction targets but their employees are also actively involved in this ecological mission. The employees take action and determine the ecological footprint of the company.

(short movie: <http://fast.wistia.net/embed/iframe/nrnsznoyr>)



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endeavour

HAPPY BAGS

Happy Bags was founded 2 years ago by Isabelle Moussiaux and wants to fill the big gap between water and unhealthy soft drinks with healthy, tasty and fun additives for water.

Isabelle develops these products simply because she misses them on the market. Together with her long-time friend and managing partner, Mikis Putseys, they have a clear vision for the company: Happy Bags wants to make children look at water differently.

The mission of Happy Bags is to make drinking water fun and to fight obesity, one of the fastest growing Western world issues.

The first Happy Bags product is out now: MiniMarieTea - World's Finest Family Tea - is a true love brand, named after Isabelle's first daughter Marie.

We offer an assortment of four organic herbal infusions specially developed for children; you can also drink it cold or warm. The colors are magical.

This ensures the whole family can drink tea together. MiniMarieTea wants to highlight this unique moment of relaxation in our busy and hectic lives and reinforces that purpose with the baseline "Make Moments". The mission is clear: #lessobesity #moreteatime!

The second product range, named after the company - Happy Bags – are healthy and fun fruit powder bags with happy faces that kids can collect or swap. You can take Happy Bags with you everywhere (purse, lunchbox, fitness bag), and this delicious soluble powder can be added to your water whenever you fancy, spicing up your water in a healthy and fun way.


This product is still in development and will only be available later this year.

More information can be found here:
www.minimarietea.com
www.happybags.be



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Happy bags
drinking water is fun!
make moments



ICE-WATCH

Since its launch in early 2007, the Belgian brand **Ice-Watch** has brought a breath of fresh air into the watchmaking world. Imagining colourful and quality watches, both stylish and affordable presented in a packaging with an innovative design that matches the watch.

In 10 years, Ice-Watch has become a reference on the market, perfectly in line with the trend in consumption and the social phenomenon of change. The brand pursues its development with a dual credo: innovation and quality (more than 500 references all 10 ATM, unique designs, remarkable collaborations with BMW Motorsport and Swarovski, as well as with international designers).

In March 2018, Ice-Watch will enter in a partnership with Moulinsart S.A. for the design, the production and the distribution of TINTIN® brand watches.



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TINTIN®

IMAGE MATTERS

Image Matters develops innovative high-performance hardware and software tools for extreme imaging applications. In order to support all audio-visual challenges, Image Matters paves the way toward efficient image compression




(HEVC, JPEG 2000, TICO, ...) and easy image transport over internet. Image Matters provides electronics and software platforms to help audio-visual equipment manufacturers to jump faster and more easily into new video dimensions. Using a

modular approach, Image Matters' Origami product range splits the electronics into pre-validated subsystems and provides an easy-to-use software environment to customize and build complete systems.



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IMAGILYS

Imagilys brings the most advanced brain imaging techniques from bench to bedside. Through our neuroimaging software suite, BrainMagix, we help our customers to improve the diagnosis and to optimize the treatment of the most severe neurological diseases.



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KINEPOLIS GROUP

Kinepolis Group NV was formed in 1997 as a result of the merger of two family-run cinema groups and was first listed on the stock exchange in 1998. Kinepolis offers an innovative cinema concept which serves as a pioneering model within the industry. Today, Kinepolis Group NV has 48 multiplexes spread across Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Spain, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Poland. In September

2017, the Group announced the acquisition of the Canadian cinema group 'Landmark Cinemas', which operates 44 Canadian cinema complexes. Upon completion of the acquisition, Kinepolis Group will operate 92 cinemas (42 of which it owns), with a total of 802 screens and more than 180,000 seats.

In addition to its cinema business, Kinepolis Group is also active in film distribution,

event organization, screen advertising and property management. Approximately 2,300 employees are committed to providing millions of cinema visitors with an unforgettable movie experience.




Link to corporate movie

For more information:
www.kinepolis.com/corporate



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KING BAUDOIN FOUNDATION

King Baudouin Foundation **Working together for a better society**

The King Baudouin Foundation's mission is to contribute to a better society.

The Foundation is an actor for change and innovation, serving the public interest and increasing social cohesion in Belgium,

Europe and internationally. We seek to maximize our impact by strengthening the capacity of organizations and individuals. We also stimulate effective philanthropy by individuals and corporations.

The King Baudouin Foundation is a public benefit foundation. The Foundation was

set up in 1976 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.

The Foundation has an office in Brussels, New-York and since 2016 in Canada (KBF CANADA).



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KITOZYME

KitoZyme, which is based in Liège, Belgium, is active in the sectors of Biochemistry and Health. The company is the global leader in non-animal chitosan production and designs, manufactures and markets medical devices, food supplements and oenological ingredients.

These products are now distributed in more than 20 countries all around the world and are all based on patented biopolymers.



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KitoZyme

*Our technologies for Health
Your success!*

KWEB

KWEB is a transmedia consulting company working with both corporate and entertainment oriented clients. The focus is on transmedia storytelling but we also have experience in non-narrative architectures.



DOMENICO LA PORTA

CEO

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LAPAUW INTERNATIONAL

Lapauw International is the European manufacturer of ecological laundry machinery and provides a total laundry solution for all kinds of entities: hotels, hospitals, automated laundry business, cruise ships, railways, airlines, prisons etc.

Lapauw International offers a wide range of washer extractors, washing tunnels, dryers, tunnel finishers and is known worldwide for its full range of flatwork ironers (gas- or steam heated), complete with feeders and folders.

With our worldwide presence we can count on a strong client portfolio which constantly inspires the R&D department of Lapauw to come up with new eco-friendly innovations.



PHILIPPE D'HEYGERE

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LEX.BE

Lex.be is an award-winning legaltech pioneer in Belgium and helps legal professionals respond to the major challenges they face in today's digital world. The lex.be team combines years of experience in the field of artificial intelligence (especially Natural Language Processing and data mining) with a thorough understanding of the lawyers' market.

The challenges in today's legal services market are enormous: knowledge management is sub-optimal and access to legal data is largely fragmented. Customers are increasingly looking for

quality legal advice with added value at an affordable price. Hence, the efficiency of the lawyer becomes indispensable. Lex.be provides access to publicly available legal information using a fast search engine that allows for full text searches across multiple databases. In addition, knowledge management is supported by artificial intelligence as well as easy-to-use tools to facilitate collaboration between colleagues. Innovation lies in the unique combination of linking private and public data with the latest knowledge management and collaboration technology. Lex.be is proud of being the finalist of

the RISE Innovative Starters Awards, an innovation prize awarded by Innoviris, the R&D partner of the Brussels region, a finalist selected by Trends Legal Awards in the category "legaltech", and a finalist for the "prix d'innovation" in the category legaltech by the incubator of the French-speaking bar association in Belgium. Lex.be is regularly mentioned in the Belgian press and is also co-founding partner of LegalTech Belgium, a grass roots community of the legaltech sector in Belgium. The company also maintains excellent relationships with the legaltech community throughout Europe.



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LICQUID

Licquid is a cloud-based Enterprise App Store with an integrated development environment. The platform enables non-technical users to produce highly graphical, complex business applications without any technical knowledge. Licquid reduces the

necessary time to produce functionalities for the business to an absolute minimum. Non-technical business users can produce results 10 times faster than their technical development counterparts. It is the first solution on the market that really eliminates

the role of the developer in the software development process. Licquid puts the business and the customer in charge of the development process!



FRANK MEYERS

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LIEGE AIRPORT

Liege Airport provides specialized services and dedicated infrastructure for freighter operators. The flexibility of the airport (24/7, no curfew, no slot limitations) and the location ensure that cargo arrives at final destination faster. We assist our partners in competing with minimum dwelling time for general cargo and providing specialized services for


express and e-commerce, perishables and pharmaceuticals, outsize cargo and live animals. In 2016, 660k tons of cargo was handled in Liege. Daily freighter connections to Asia, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas, and a European air and road network have made Liege a global crossroads for airfreight. In addition, with over 300,000 passengers annually, Liege

Airport is the third passenger airport in Belgium. TUI fly is its biggest operator and serves many Mediterranean destinations. Ideally located in Western Europe, Liege Airport has also welcomed over 100,000 Chinese passengers in the past 2 years. Its modern terminal can handle 1.5 million passengers per year.



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LIFE IS WONDERPOULE (UP! ASBL)

Life is Wonderpoule is an innovative project of social entrepreneurship. Our mission is to promote the raising of chickens in cities as a solution to the treatment of organic waste and to provide delicious eggs daily. We reconnect city

dwellers to nature with this simple idea! We propose an all-inclusive package with a chicken coop, the chickens, food and litter, and our book to tell you all you need to know about raising chickens.

This project has been created by our NGO which is an incubator of social companies. We develop new projects each year to tackle social issues in Belgium.



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LOGISTICS IN WALLONIA

Logistics in Wallonia is the cluster organization of the Walloon Government for Transport and Logistics.

Logistics in Wallonia drives innovation with major players of the transport & logistics industry, universities, infrastructure

operators, research & training centers and logistics service providers.


Logistics in Wallonia actively supports the various multi modal logistics platforms located in Wallonia (road-rail-waterways-ports-airports).

Logistics in Wallonia facilitates the export programs of its members – more than 300 - as well as foreign investments in Wallonia in close collaboration with the Wallonia Export-Investment Agency.



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MERCURA INDUSTRIES

Located in Brussels, at the heart of Europe, on a 5000 m² site, our company has developed and produced high-quality aluminium trolleys for more than 60 years; its broad product range adapts to multiple uses in hotels, hospitals, retirement homes

and communities as well as cruise ships, restaurants and airports.

Mercura® Industries S.A. is currently established in more than 45 countries throughout the world.

In May 2008, Mercura® Industries S.A. was sold to Paul Coupez a Belgian entrepreneur who has extensive experience in the medical sector as well as in various industrial sectors.



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MEYVAERT GLASS ENGINEERING

Meyvaert was established in Belgium in 1826 and has been producing museum display cases since 1946. Serving our worldwide customers for many decades has meant that our teams can draw upon a successful combination of technical proficiency, creative flair and awareness to create products where structural quality meets aesthetic beauty.

Subsequently, our multidisciplinary staff continuously develop cutting-edge engineering and manufacturing solutions, in

order to provide our clients with the latest innovative exhibition possibilities that revolve around the optimal presentation, security and conservation of artefacts.

Meyvaert's diverse team of project managers can rely on many years of experience in project management. Our flexibility, communication skills and international expertise allow us to effortlessly liaise and collaborate with our project partners across the globe.

In summation, Meyvaert's unceasing pursuit of perfection, its unwavering client support and service-minded approach form the core of our business, in conjunction with our excellent technical know-how and state-of-the-art craftsmanship.

For more info visit our websites:
www.meyvaertmuseum.be
www.meyvaertfire.be



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MEYVAERT.

MITHRA PHARMACEUTICALS

Mithra (Euronext: MITRA) is dedicated to providing innovation and choice in women's health, with a particular focus on fertility, contraception and menopause. Mithra's goal is to develop new and improved products that meet women's needs for better safety and convenience. Its two lead development candidates - a fifth generation oral contraceptive, Estelle[®],

and a next generation hormone therapy, Donesta[®]- are built on Mithra's unique natural estrogen platform, E4 (Estetrol). Mithra also develops, manufactures and markets complex therapeutics and offers partners a complete spectrum of research, development and specialist manufacturing at its Mithra CDMO.

Mithra was founded in 1999 as a spin-off of the University of Liège by Mr. François Fornieri and Prof. Dr. Jean-Michel Foidart. Mithra has an approximate headcount of 140 staff members and is headquartered in Liège, Belgium.



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Women's Health

NEXUS FACTORY

Founded by Sylvain Goldberg and Serge de Poucques, **Nexus Factory** is an independent production company which has quickly established itself as a key player on the Belgian market (active in feature film, animation, TV series and documentaries). The company has earned an undisputed reputation in the film industry, both in Belgium and abroad.

The two producers complement each other perfectly and combine multiple talents. The company's strategy is based on strong partnerships built over the years, in Belgium and abroad, with public investment funds, the Tax Shelter financial partners, TV channels and distributors. One of the strengths of Nexus Factory is that it has set up an efficient production

unit with executive producers and production directors within the company. Nexus Factory provides hands-on expertise and ensures control cost throughout each project. At Nexus Factory, every film is treated as a special and unique project in which we bring creativity, enthusiasm and professionalism.



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NORTH SEA PORT

North Sea Port is the company resulting from the merger between Ghent Port Company of Flanders and Zeeland Seaports of the Netherlands (with the ports of Vlissingen and Terneuzen). On Friday 8 December 2017, the eight Flemish and Dutch shareholders signed the merger.

North Sea Port manages the unified cross-border port area stretching from Vlissingen in the Netherlands to Ghent in Flanders. North Sea Port manages, operates and develops this 60-kilometre long area. As a unified port, North Sea Port is the European number 3 in terms of added value (EUR 13


billion) and number 10 in terms of tonnage (62.3 million). This area is good for 96,750 jobs across some 525 companies and has almost 1,000 hectares of land available for investors.

The eight shareholders are all public bodies: cities, municipalities and provinces.



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NOVADIP BIOSCIENCES

Founded in 2013, **Novadip Biosciences** is a regenerative medicine spin-off company from Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) and St. Luc University Hospital. Novadip Biosciences pioneers the growth of 3-dimensional biologics based on adipose-




derived stem cells, to regenerate hard and soft tissues. The flagship of the company's product family is NVD-001, a revolutionary, ready-to-use and biological 3D osteogenic structure that can be modelled to fill any bone defects. The technology has also been

used to develop the second family product in the portfolio, NVD-002, a biological bandage for skin tissue applications, designed to avoid formation of painful scars.



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NOVELAS ASBL

Novelas asbl promote artists and the French language. Its members, throughout the French-speaking countries, benefit from many different services: books, movies, theatre, music but also services in relation to the French language, such as rewriting

of text (book or school work), improvement or learning (fle). All our projects are cultural but also social because people are as important as culture. Art is a tool for the well-being of the author but also for everyone who benefits.



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ONTOFORCE

ONTOFORCE was founded in 2011 to help find the right data for children with learning disorders and disabilities. In 2013, this technology got directed towards the Healthcare and Life sciences industry, bringing data from patients and research together. Now it enters new markets as finance, cleantech, education, food ... The fast-growing company has a pioneering semantic data integration, AI and analytics online platform, DISCOVER, that allows


everyone to mine vast amounts of data faster, smarter and simpler, integrating unlimited amounts of internal, external and third-party data bringing simplicity to the growing 'Big Data' complexity. DISCOVER brings information at everyone's fingertips enabling faster and smarter decision-making: (1) saving companies time in data integration with instant results (hours instead of months), (2) exceling in fast uptake because of the compelling and

simple to use interface (users start in 5-10 minutes, no long trainings are needed) and (3) saving companies millions as users find insights fast and easily, including information they didn't even know existed. ONTOFORCE is recognized and rewarded many times for its open data strategy, its top-notch technology and its vision in how data is changing lives.



HANS CONSTANDT

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POPPIES INTERNATIONAL

In the city centre of 20th-century Ypres (Belgium), Master Baker Popelier laid the foundations for a truly authentic artisan bakery tradition. But it really took off when the next generation started experimenting with traditional cookies on a larger scale. Today, **Poppies International** still manufactures delicacies with the same spirit Master Baker Popelier did in 1935. His philosophy: selecting the finest ingredients

to offer his customers the maximum in taste, quality and - above all - togetherness. The Poppies International group now consists of 850 employees, has 11 production sites and sells to 57 countries worldwide. Respect for the tradition of the artisan bakery craft has always remained a staple throughout our history. It is combined with the drive to constantly surprise the markets with new creations

and innovative flavours. By selecting the best quality ingredients and guaranteeing freshness, Poppies manufactures excellent bakery products with added value for all the stakeholders, including employees and their families.

At Poppies, we strive to bring joy and happiness to people all over the world by offering them quality desserts and snack products.



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PORT OF BRUSSELS

Brussels is the second largest Belgian inland port and enjoys an ideal location in the centre of Europe. It is a seaport accessible 24/7, 5 hours' sailing from the Port of Antwerp via a canal that has only

two locks between Brussels and Antwerp. The **Port of Brussels** offers 5.5 km of quays along the waterway which crosses the Brussels Region from north to south. The Port of Brussels has the objective

of promoting water transport (the most environment-friendly mode of transport), the development of employment, and the fight against global warming and for better urban distribution.



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PORT OF ZEEBRUGGE (M.B.Z.)

Port of Zeebrugge is one of Europe's prime RoRo and container ports and handles approximately 40 million tons of cargo every year.

The port is a global leading port for the handling of new cars, and also handles container cargoes on the Europe – Middle East – Far East route. In addition, Zeebrugge has developed a European network for feeder traffic to

convey box cargoes to all major European destinations.

The short sea network offers over 20 daily links to destinations in the UK, Scandinavia, Ireland, the Baltic and Southern Europe.

Other core businesses in Zeebrugge include liquefied natural gas, conventional cargoes, agro bulk commodities, cruises and last but not least perishable products.


The sheer multitude of transport links by RoRo, container carrier, feeder ship, inland navigation barge, rail and road makes the port an ideal spot to set up European distribution centers.

Zeebrugge is more than a mere maritime crossroads: it is foremost an ultramodern logistic platform to serve with excellence the European and intercontinental markets.



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PREFAMAC CHOCOLATE MACHINES

PREFAMAC CHOCOLATE MACHINES

produces “sweet” machines, with particular emphasis on the world of chocolate and the industry of biscuits, cookies, waffles and cakes.

Prefamac manufactures cooling tunnels, chocolate tempering and moulding machines, chocolate, butter and cream melting kettles, pumps and piping, enrobing

machines designed to cover sweets with chocolate as well as machinery for flaking, adding flakes or decoration to enrobed products.

Since its foundation 30 years ago, we have supplied both industrial installations as well as small scale machinery for bakeries and chocolate manufacturers. Up to 98 % of Prefamac’s output is destined for export


and reaches more than 100 countries worldwide.

Featuring among Prefamac’s customers are famous chocolate brands like Marcolini, Neuhaus and Hersheys, and Mondelez (Cadbury/Kraft/Lu) and General Biscuits for cookies and biscuit lines.



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PROMETHERA BIOSCIENCES

Promethera Biosciences is a global innovator in liver cell-based medicines whose mission is to help patients overcome acute and chronic liver diseases. Our lead

clinical program, derived from our patented cell technology platform HepaStem, is designed to benefit from its immunomodulatory and anti-fibrotic properties.

We are a team of international experts operating out of R&D and GMP facilities in Mont-Saint-Guibert, Belgium, and Durham, NC, USA.



JOHN TCHELINGERIAN

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PROXIMUS

Proximus Group is a telecommunication & ICT company operating in the Belgian and international markets, providing services to residential, enterprise and public customers. We are the leading provider of telephony, internet, television and network-based ICT services in Belgium through our Proximus and Scarlet brands. Our advanced

interconnected fixed and mobile networks offer access anywhere and anytime to digital services and data, as well as to a broad offering of multimedia content. We are investing in future-proof networks and innovative solutions, creating the foundations for sustainable growth. We put the customer at the heart of

everything we do. Our aim is to deliver the best customer experience and to simplify the customer journey by offering accessible and easy-to-use solutions. We contribute to the economic, social and environmental development of the society in which we operate.



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QUALITY ASSISTANCE

Quality Assistance S.A. is a leading European CRO (Contract Research Organization) providing the pharmaceutical industry with all the analytical services required by EMA and FDA regulations for the development and marketing of innovative human medicinal products.


The company holds a unique position on the market thanks to having all its laboratories on one site, 155 highly qualified professionals and 35 years' expertise at the forefront of analytical sciences. We assist our clients from candidate selection, through non-clinical and clinical studies, to marketing authorization, using our state-of-the-art, product-dedicated expertise in drug analysis.

For each customer and each project, we design customized solutions, define analytical protocols, develop and validate specific new analytical methods and perform characterization, stability, pharmacokinetic, biomarker and immunogenicity studies as well as batch release testing, to evaluate the Quality, Safety and Efficacy of the given drugs.



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ROADFOUR

Roadfour s.a. is an aerospace engineering company. Our main development is the Hydrone, the next generation of scooper and water bomber aircraft specially dedicated to aerial wildfire fighting.



GAËTAN DU FOUR

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ROAM TECHNOLOGY

Roam Technology designs efficient and sustainable disinfection solutions for a diverse range of applications. Take for example the disinfection of surfaces and water in the horticultural and veterinary field, the cosmetics, food and

drink industries, swimming pools, and for domestic use. Hygiene is key in almost every environment. And that's exactly where we would like to make a difference with our innovative knowledge, superior quality products and customised service.

Roam Technology always goes the extra mile for a cleaner future. Both for your own company as well as for the world around you.



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ROBOVISION


Robovision develops deep learning based AI solutions. We excel at reducing training times of large datasets, and industrializing academic state of the art knowledge, while designing the right deep architecture.

We currently focus on 3 verticals:
Agriculture, Manufacturing and Media/
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SCK•CEN

65 years of experience in nuclear science and technology

The Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (**SCK•CEN**) is one of Belgium's largest research centres. As a public charitable foundation, SCK•CEN receives a grant from the federal government covering 40% of its running costs and investments; the remaining 60% come from its own

revenues. It has more than 750 employees who devote themselves every day to developing peaceful applications of nuclear energy. The Centre develops lasting technologies with a great deal of added value for society. The research activities of SCK•CEN relate to three main themes: the safety of nuclear facilities, sustainable management of radioactive


waste and protecting the population and the environment against ionising radiation. SCK•CEN is recognised worldwide and shares its knowledge through numerous training courses in order to keep up this exceptional pool of talent.

More info: www.sckcen.be



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SITRA INVEST

Sitra group is a national and international transport company with extensive specialization in the transportation of food products.

We transport and unload goods to and from all over Europe. In addition to our main office in Ypres, we have offices in the Netherlands, Germany, France, Italy, England, Poland, Lithuania, Moldova,

Romania and Russia.

Sitra specializes in the food market. We transport products in powder, liquid or packaged form. We can organize both the inflow and outflow. If certain goods are to be stocked for a short or longer period, we can also be of service to you.

We maintain a strict quality policy at Sitra and we strive for an optimal customer

satisfaction with a perfect service. Sitra is 100% family-owned. We thus proudly combine our West-Flemish flexibility with the advantages of a large company. Sitra has enough capacity to accommodate your production during peak moments. Our driven and motivated employees are committed to be of the best possible service to you.



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The SITRA logo, featuring the word "SITRA" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The letter "I" is stylized with a white dot and a horizontal line, resembling a bird or a wing.

SMET CHOCOLATERIE

Smet Chocolaterie is a family-owned Belgian company with a very comprehensive range. We are expert in high-quality chocolate products and sweets, we manufacture semi-finished products such as inclusions and toppings

but also consumer products and transfer sheets. For over 50 years, Smet has been known as a decoration supplier and problem solver for the industry. We strive to supply the best finished products that meet the highest quality requirements to satisfy our

customers. We have facilities in Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Canada, UAE and Indonesia. This allows us to be customer-oriented, reliable and ensure fast deliveries.



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SOLUTION

Solution is a creative technical solution provider. We have four divisions: Concept & Design, Translation of Design into feasible technical solutions, Production and Logistics.
All divisions can be called upon separately

or together. We combine all types of material with graphics, audio-visual equipment and custom control systems. We mainly construct trade show exhibits, museum exhibits, pop up shops, prototypes and enhance office interiors.

Our marquee clients are Bayer, Philip Morris, Delvaux, Hermes, Katoennatie, Rubenshuis, MoMU, Landesmuseum Zurich, Dries van Noten, BMW etc.



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SONACA

A leading tier-1 player in aerospace, **Sonaca** is a global Belgian company active in the development, manufacture and assembly of integrated structures for civil, military and space applications. Sonaca Group is also the world leader in the slats systems and supplies engineering services, wing panels, composite structures, forming parts and machined parts.


It employs 2,500 people and has production facilities in Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China and Romania.

Sonaca recently, in July 2017, took over an American company, LMI, active in the same field of activities but working essentially for American companies; after this operation the Sonaca Group will nearly double its size and become an important supplier of all the big manufacturers active on the world market.



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STIBBE

Stibbe is a Benelux law firm with main offices in Amsterdam, Brussels, and Luxembourg and branch offices in Dubai, London, Hong Kong and New York. Stibbe offers full legal service, both advisory work and litigation, in all areas of law, such as administrative law, banking & finance, corporate / M&A, employment & pensions, energy, EU, competition & regulated markets, insolvency & restructuring, intellectual property, litigation & arbitration, planning & environment, real estate & construction, tax, and TMT.



Stibbe consists of more than 390 lawyers. Stibbe's Brussels office comprises close to 150 lawyers, of whom 30 are partners. As a full-service firm, our lawyers work in multidisciplinary teams with the aim of delivering pragmatic advice. We build close business relationships with our clients that range from local and multinational corporations to state organisations and public authorities. We realise that understanding their commercial objectives, their position in the market and their sector or industry, allows us to render suitable and effective advice.

In addition to our own international presence, we work closely with other top-tier firms for cross-border matters outside our home jurisdictions. These relations are non-exclusive and enable us to assemble a tailor-made, integrated team of lawyers with the best expertise and contacts for each specific matter. This guarantees efficient coordination on cross-border transactions, whatever their complexity and nature.



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Stibbe

SYNGULON

Syngulon is developing original genetic technologies to improve the efficiency of microorganisms involved in bioproduction. During recent years, the development of microbial bio-based products has emerged. These new applications require deep

genetic engineering (also called Synthetic Biology) of microbial genomes to achieve high production yield.

On May 10, 2016 the USPTO issued a US Patent 9,333,227 to Syngulon for the use of bacteriocin/immunity in any bacteria,

yeast or algae for controlled growth of microorganisms.

This issued patent is part of a new worldwide patent portfolio developed by Syngulon and available for licensing in all fields of use on a non-exclusive basis.



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THE BELGIAN CHOCOLATE GROUP

The **Belgian Chocolate Group** NV was founded in 1956. It is a well-established manufacturer and exporter of premium chocolate products. The products are 100 % made and packed in our 3 modern Belgian production sites.

“The Belgian” brand reflects the traditional chocolate-making expertise from Belgium and has built up a strong reputation amongst chocolate lovers throughout the world.



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THE JURISTS EUROPE

theJurists Europe is a contemporary legal boutique office and has been a pioneer in digital law for eight years. theJurists believes in digital transformation and artificial intelligence, and works hard on projects that aim at making the law accessible to all. theJurists stands for open, transparent and innovative law.



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THE JURISTS
SEM. BRUGEL, P. BREGMAN, M. DE WILDE, M. DE WILDE

TRIAS

Trias is a development organisation which supports entrepreneurial people in 14 countries across Latin America, Africa and Asia. We work to improve sustainably the living conditions of over 3 million small-scale farmers and entrepreneurs.

Working in collaboration with the Trias head office in Brussels, the 10 overseas offices manage our programmes which are focused on supporting a total of 140 local partner organisations. These programmes mainly involve the strengthening of farmers and entrepreneurial groups. Working with member-based organisations ensures that structural, socio-economic changes are achieved. Trias provides disadvantaged


entrepreneurs with access to professional training, affordable credit and profitable markets. We teach them to speak with one voice.

Trias generates the conditions entrepreneurial people need to stand on their own feet, in their own region. We turn their dreams into opportunities.



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TROTEC

Trotec has developed a unique technology that allows the transformation of former foodstuffs into a raw material for the compound feed industry. This technology prevents food waste and keeps ingredients in the food chain.


The European Commission works hard on programs to prevent food waste. The activity of Trotec gives a clear answer to this challenge. Trotec gives new life to food waste by making a new ingredient for animal feed.

Trotec is the market leader due to its constant innovation. Over the years, it developed a unique process with the main focus on food safety and sustainability.



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UCB

UCB, Brussels, Belgium (www.ucb.com) is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines and solutions to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases of the immune system or of

the central nervous system. With more than 7 500 people in approximately 40 countries, the company generated revenue of € 4.2 billion in 2016. UCB is listed on Euronext Brussels (symbol: UCB).



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UNION WALLONNE DES ENTREPRISES

The mission of this private organisation is “to promote and support business, the motor driving the Region’s economic and social well-being”.

The Walloon Business Federation is the official representative of industrial, commercial and service-sector businesses of all sizes established in Wallonia. All types of businesses are represented, from the small family concern to the large multinational.

It is solely funded by contributions from its 6,000-member businesses of all sizes from all sectors, and employs a permanent multidisciplinary staff based in Wavre.



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UNIZO

UNIZO, the organization for independent entrepreneurs and SMEs is a non-profit and interprofessional employers' organization and social partner.

With 118 cooperating professional sectorial organizations and over 110,000 members, UNIZO is the largest organization for entrepreneurs in Flanders & Brussels.


The main activities of UNIZO are: defending the interests of the entrepreneurs, providing information and advice and stimulating networking. They are aimed at five specific categories: start-ups, young companies, growing companies, international active companies and business transfer.

UNIZO is also responsible for stimulating international trade of Flemish SMEs and cooperation in European and international projects. UNIZO is a member of UEAPME, the European SME organization.



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VELVET FILMS / AMENIC FILMS

Velvet Films was created in 2011 under the name ED Productions by Earl Esterházy von Galantha. The company produced, as Belgian delegate producer, the films “The Girl with Nine Wigs” by Marc Rothemund and “Me & Kaminski” by Wolfgang

Becker. In 2016 the company was bought up by Sebastian Schelenz, producer, and Christophe Jouret, managing director, and Velvet Films was born. In May 2017 André Sommerlatte joined the team as producer and associate partner.

Velvet Films focusses on the development and the production of international feature films and perceives itself as a hub of exchange between talents and cultures.



ANDRÉ SOMMERLATTE

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VERIMPEX MATTING

Technological innovation, craftsmanship and great aesthetic added value. **Verimpex** offers customised floor mats, adapted to any preference and functional needs of the designated area. Each individual mat is the result of intensive precision labour and a highly optimized production process.




Verimpex boasts an international network of sales outlets which covers Europe, but stretches as far as the USA, Canada and Middle East. With its broad range of floor mats, Verimpex can handle any challenge from coarse to very fine dirt and from home entrances to high-traffic areas such as hospitals and shopping centres.

With over 35 years of experience, Verimpex has always strived to achieve technological excellence in both its products and its production process, resulting in swift lead times for even the most demanding projects!



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VLAAMS AUDIOVISUEEL FONDS - VAF

The Flanders Audiovisual Fund (VAF)

is the cultural public funding body of Belgium's Flemish Community. It includes three specialized funds:

1) The **VAF/Film Fund** co-finances the production of individual films in various genres: fiction, animation, documentary and experimental film. Feature films, medium-length and short films are all eligible.

2) The **VAF/Media Fund** focuses on the co-financing of high-quality television series developed in co-production with a Flemish TV broadcaster. This includes fiction, animation, documentary and cross-media developments of TV series.

3) The **VAF/Game Fund** co-finances the development of video games by games companies in Flanders and Brussels.

In addition, VAF has a promotional department, known as Flanders Image, along with a wide range of accompanying activities and support measures in the area of talent development, research, film culture and sustainability - the latter known as 'e-Mission'. "Screen Flanders" is furthermore an economic fund operated by VAF



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 **VAF.be**

The logo for the Flemish Audiovisual Fund (VAF), consisting of the letters 'VAF' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The 'V' and 'A' are connected, and the 'F' is positioned to the right.

VOKA

Voka is the biggest Flemish network of enterprises and was established in 2004 as an alliance of the eight Flemish Chambers of Commerce and Industry. As

a network Voka unites more than 18,000 businesses representing 65% of the private employment and 70% of the added value in Flanders. With 18,000 members in all

fields, Voka members form a representative sample of the economy of the Flemish region.



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WAGRALIM

Founded in 2006, Wagr**alim** is the Competitive Cluster for the Agro-Food industry in Wallonia. Located at the heart of Europe, the Cluster aims to support industries, universities and research or training centers in their partnership projects.

The shared objectives consist of creating value, boosting performances and positioning on international markets, while relying on innovation.

Major areas covered by the Cluster are: Nutrition and Health, Industrial Efficiency and Sustainable Agro-Food Networks.



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wagrAlim
Appetite for Innovation

WALLIMAGE

Wallimage Ltd and its subsidiaries Wallimage Coproductions Ltd and Wallimage Entreprises Ltd, were set up in Mons (Wallonia) in February 2001. Together, they act as the Walloon regional body for the audiovisual industry.


Their aim: to help structure the fledgling audiovisual industry in the Walloon Region. Their Strategy: to act as co-producers for full-length feature films or series that use Walloon talent and technicians, during either production or post production. We support either live fiction, animation or documentaries. Through an incentive program called Creative Wallonia, we can

also finance TransMedia, VR and AR. With Wallimage Entreprises we also support the set up and development of audiovisual service companies, with capital investments or conditional loans. Their tools: Wallimage Coproductions has a yearly budget of €5.5 million to invest in co-productions. Wallimage Entreprises has capital of 16 M€.



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WBC INCUBATOR

WBC finances and guides healthcare companies through their phases of creation and industrial maturation over a period of six years in the French-speaking region of Wallonia. Products and services developed by these companies are mostly innovative therapeutics, diagnostics or devices (biotech and medtech). WBC support is also available for e-health solutions as well as for selected nutrition and environment

applications. These emerging companies can be either academic spin-offs, entrepreneurial start-ups or corporate spin-outs (including those from foreign companies). Financial support provided by WBC to companies is primarily in the form of a reimbursable or convertible loan (around 300 k€ per company). WBC also gives access to a pool of pre-qualified managers, business developers and

independent directors, as well as to a large network of experts, investors and incubation - acceleration partners. In ten years, WBC has contributed to the creation and expansion of fifty companies with the dual objective of building a new industry in Wallonia and to move as many products and services from Wallonia to the world healthcare market.



SERGE PAMPFER

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WEWATT

WeWatt was launched in a bid to address today's largely sedentary lifestyle and a growing concern about climate change, renewable energy and a social impact-driven business model. Around the globe, people are increasingly aware that sitting still for hours at a time is unhealthy: "Sitting is the new smoking". Equally topical is the fact that travelers, visitors and passers-by in public places are eager


to charge their mobile communication devices, maintaining their connection to the outside world. That's why we decided to design furniture you can sit on and pedal while you work or socialize, and generate your own reward in the form of healthy energy. Airports, train stations, universities, hotels, conference centers, shopping centers and companies are among the many clients that have embraced this innovative

concept. WeWatt products can be found around the globe. The concept is simple: pedaling at an easy speed on the integrated bikes generates 'green' energy for charging smart phones, tablets and laptops. "Doing your bit and generating your own electricity is both fun and healthy. Because our products are in public spaces, they also generate plenty of social contacts" says Patricia Ceysens.



PATRICIA CEYSENS

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ZINGAMETALL

Zingametall is the manufacturer of ZINGA, a one component zinc rich coating or “Film Galvanizing System” containing 96% atomized zinc (powder) in its dry film. This high content of zinc allows a galvanic couple to be formed between the steel substrate and ZINGA, which ensures an active galvanic anticorrosion protection of the steel.

The zinc in ZINGA® (anode) sacrifices itself, protecting the steel beneath in a comparable way to hot-dip galvanizing.

As the ZINGA® oxidizes, a layer of zinc salts slowly builds up on the ZINGA® surface, closing the film and enhancing the barrier effect of the coating. Next to this, a supplementary barrier protection is provided by the binder in ZINGA®. The binder reduces the depletion of the zinc, providing long-lasting protection. But, in contrast to hot dip galvanization and metallization, ZINGA can be easily applied - like a traditional paint - using a brush, roller or paint pistol on a clean steel surface. While ZINGA looks like a paint, it has some distinct characteristics: it has an

almost unlimited pot & shelf life, it will not peel off or crack and it can be indefinitely recharged / reloaded.


Furthermore, a dry layer of ZINGA does not contain any toxic elements, allowing contact with potable water.

ZINGA is used as a stand-alone system (two layers of ZINGA) for excellent corrosion protection on normal or cast iron, steel, on (old) hot-dipped structures, rebars, for a wide variety of projects (bridges, pylons, wind turbines, barriers, pipelines, etc.) or as a duplex system with a colored topcoat.



BRUNO SAVERYS

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An aerial photograph of a large, ornate building with a dark, multi-gabled roof and a river in the background. The building has a classical facade with columns and a wide set of steps leading to the entrance. The river is wide and flows through the city, with a small island in the middle. In the background, there are various other buildings, including a large brick building and a modern building with a curved facade. The text "ACADEMIC DELEGATION" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image. Two thin yellow horizontal lines are positioned above and below the text.

ACADEMIC DELEGATION

ACADEMY FOR RESEARCH AND HIGH EDUCATION (ARES)

The **Academy for Research and Higher Education** (*Académie de Recherche et d'Enseignement supérieur – ARES*) is the federation of the French-speaking higher education institutions (HEIs) of Belgium. As a public interest body, it is responsible for supporting these institutions regarding their teaching, research and community service missions.

It brings together 6 universities, 19 university colleges, 16 colleges of arts and 86 adult higher education colleges. As a unique platform, ARES carries out the

global coordination for the higher education sector in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, it organizes the dialogue between the institutions and promotes collaborations nationally and internationally. It particularly ensures the consistency of the provision of training and its labour market relevance; it supports HEIs in their advocacy efforts and international relations and makes recommendations about scientific or artistic research policy. ARES provides information about higher education in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. It also coordinates the commitments made by the institutions

regarding lifelong learning, student success promotion or development cooperation.

In the field of international relations, ARES aims at fostering further internationalization of HEIs. It specifically supports them in developing and implementing their internationalization strategies, projects and actions. It contributes to the attractiveness, visibility and promotion of HEIs abroad. Finally, ARES provides systematic expertise related to internationalization to its members.



JULIEN NICAISE

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ARTEVELDE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE GHENT

Artevelde University College

Ghent, member of the Ghent University Association, offers a wide variety of study programmes in the fields of teacher training, economic and graphic education, healthcare and social work. It is a centre of expertise for education, research and development where students, staff and




strategic partners work together in a stimulating environment and develop their talents into competences in a forward-looking and internationally oriented university college. Artevelde University College educates professionals who push their boundaries through creativity, innovative thinking and entrepreneurship.

The university college aims for excellence and sustainability and honours its social commitment and emphasises the importance of intercultural dialogue. It focuses on enhancing the international dimension in education, mobility, research and innovation in order to ensure the best quality within the organisation.



TOMAS LEGRAND

CEO/RECTOR

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FLEMISH INTERUNIVERSITY COUNCIL (VLIR)

VLIR represents the Flemish universities and was established in 1976. VLIR serves as a platform to facilitate interuniversity cooperation and interaction with the Flemish Government in all matters concerning higher education policy. Topics such as education and research policy, university management and administration are addressed.

VLIR is the forum where the universities debate, learn from each other, join forces and formulate shared solutions.


The Interuniversity Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS) is part of VLIR and receives funding from the Belgian Development Cooperation (DGD). VLIR-UOS supports partnerships between higher

education institutes in Flanders and the South, looking for innovative responses to global and local challenges. VLIR-UOS funds around 170 projects and 1,300 scholarships.



ROSETTE S'JEGERS

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FUND FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH F.R.S.-FNRS

Key player in Belgian basic research, the **Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S.-FNRS)** has supported and promoted free scientific research in the Wallonia Brussels Federation for almost 90 years. Building on expertise and partnerships, the F.R.S.-FNRS fosters innovation and knowledge development by evaluating, selecting and funding researchers and research projects within university laboratories.

The F.R.S.-FNRS supports researchers in basic research in all scientific fields through 3 instruments categories: individual researcher mandate, research projects (including equipment, personnel and operating costs) and exchange networks (researchers' short-term mobility, congress, scientific meetings, symposium, contact groups, publications, doctoral schools,...).

Projects are bottom-up and research-driven. Selection is based on scientific excellence. The ex-ante evaluation is a transparent two-step procedure based on international standards among which international scientific commissions. Flagship in Belgium, the F.R.S.-FNRS is a driving force behind the competitiveness of Belgian research in Europe and worldwide.



VÉRONIQUE HALLOIN

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GHENT UNIVERSITY

Ghent University consists of 117 departments across 11 faculties and offers high-quality research-based educational programmes in virtually every scientific discipline. Ghent University distinguishes itself as a socially committed and pluralistic university with a broad international perspective.

The motto of the university is “Dare to think”. The university’s appeal is growing every year, with about 44,000 students in 2017, of which 12% are international (students, PhD students, exchange students).

Numerous research groups, centres and institutes have been founded over

the years, becoming world-renowned in disciplines such as biotechnology, aquaculture and micro-electronics. Ghent University is a Dutch-speaking university but English is widely spoken by both students and staff. Moreover, international students can choose a wide variety of English courses and programmes.



RIK VAN DE WALLE

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HASSELT UNIVERSITY

Hasselt University (Dutch: Universiteit Hasselt, UHasselt) is a university with campuses in Hasselt and Diepenbeek, Belgium. True to its baseline 'Knowledge in action', Hasselt University provides for a qualified workforce, locally adapted research, appropriate services and

technologies for the region. The university has six faculties (Law, Sciences, Business Economics, Medicine & Life Sciences, Architecture & Arts and Engineering Technology), one School (Transportation Sciences) and six research institutes (which cover a wide range of research areas:

biomedical, environmental, statistical, material, transportation research and media technology research). Hasselt University is home to about 6,000 students and almost 1,400 academic, administrative and technical staff members.



LUC DE SCHEPPER

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HAUTE ÉCOLE DE NAMUR-LIÈGE-LUXEMBOURG (HENALLUX)

The University College **HENALLUX** numbers around 6,700 students working on ten campuses, in the provinces of Namur, Liège and Luxembourg.


The University College HENALLUX offers Bachelor, specialization and Master studies in higher education, in the fields of Public Health Sciences, Psychological Sciences of Education, Information and Communication,

Political and Social Sciences, Legal Sciences, Economics and Management Sciences, Sciences and Engineer and Technology Sciences.



MARYLÈNE PIERRET

PRINCIPAL

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HAUTE ÉCOLE EN HAINAUT (HEH)

The **Haute École en Hainaut (HEH)** is a public institution of higher education (university college) organized by the *Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles* and proposing curricula of Bachelors' and Masters' degrees in the economic, social, teacher training and technical engineering fields.



DENIS DUFRANE

CHAIRMAN CEO

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HAUTE ÉCOLE FRANCISCO FERRER

Presentation of the **Haute École Francisco Ferrer** (Francisco Ferrer University College):

In Belgium, a University College is a non-university higher education institution. Francisco Ferrer University College, based in Brussels, in the very heart of the capital of the European Union, is affiliated with the City of Brussels educational system. Its sites are open to the city, therefore enabling the student population to benefit from the assets offered by a cosmopolitan capital, yet still with a human dimension.

There were 3,217 students at Francisco Ferrer University College during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Francisco Ferrer University College offers curricula of two types,

- the “shorter curriculum”, with its 3-or-4-year vocational Bachelors, in study fields as diverse as Design and Applied Arts, Business, Healthcare, Teacher Training, Human Resources and Technical Studies;
- the “longer curriculum”, with its 3-or-4-year Bachelors leading to 1-or-2-year Masters in Business, more particularly in management and public administration.

Francisco Ferrer University College is particularly committed to convey its democratic values such as commitment and equal chances, to lead the students to success through a number of support services and interactive pedagogy, and to promote their integration into the professional world.



DOMINIQUE DAEMS

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HAUTE ÉCOLE LÉONARD DE VINCI

The **Haute École Léonard de Vinci** (HE Vinci) is a University College based in Brussels and Louvain-la-Neuve. With more than 8,000 students, it is one of the largest institutions in French-speaking Belgium. It grants 25 bachelor's degrees, 8 master's degrees and 9 specialization degrees covering five fields of training: paramedical, pedagogical, social, economic and technological. It is composed of five institutes: ECAM – Brussels Engineering

School, Ecole Normale Catholique du Brabant Wallon, Institut libre Marie Haps, Institut Paul Lambin, Parnasse-ISEI. One of HE Vinci's priorities is to train the students to become professionals. HE Vinci provides programmes that integrate the professional component of the curricula, and offers students placements in firms, hospitals, schools, industry and NGOs. The pedagogical vision of the institution focuses on the learning process with a

tailored training programme that aims at excellence through applied research projects, continuous education and service to society, with the collective support and expertise of the teaching teams.

Through its active policy of fostering international partnerships, HE Vinci enhances learning opportunities by integrating cross-border mobility for students and teachers in all programmes.



DAMIEN HUVELLE

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HOGESCHOOL PXL

PXL University College in its current form was established in 2013 as a sui generis institute, and has a history going back to 1837.

Situated in Hasselt, Diepenbeek and Genk (Flemish Region, province of Limburg), PXL offers bachelor and master programs for over 8,200 students, and employs over 1,000 members of staff. PXL offers professional bachelor programs in Business, Education, Healthcare, IT, Media & Tourism, Music, Social Work and Technology, and bachelor and master programs in Arts.

Apart from education, PXL also performs applied research driven by the needs of the region and is intended to create innovation for companies, non-profit organizations and governments. At the same time PXL is dedicated to providing consultancy and programs for continuing education for professionals.


As a main asset, PXL University College has its own Congress Centre, hosting events and lifelong learning programs for over 100,000 annual visitors.

The name PXL stands for Professionals & Excellence, and represents the institute's mission. PXL professionalises people and organisations and contributes to welfare and well-being. By intertwining education, research, provision of services and the practice of the arts, PXL allows its students, contributors and organisations to develop into excellent professionals.



BEN LAMBRECHTS

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HOGESCHOOL PXL

HOWEST

A University of Applied Sciences, we like to describe ourselves as atypical, creative, innovative and entrepreneurial. Anticipating the future and exploring the talents and motivation of each student, we coach our students to become competent, highly employable, team-oriented young professionals. We aim to set the mark for socially relevant, practice-based education and valorisation-oriented research and community service for the broad regional and international labour market. Anticipating new trends and needs, we design new profiles. In order to do so, we

generate practice-based, state of the art curricula in close collaboration with the labour field. In a multidisciplinary setting, we integrate education, research and community service in each curriculum, thus creating an added value for its students, staff and society as a whole.


Howest University of Applied Sciences has 6,000 students and 600 staff. We are a partner of the University of Ghent Association, which is the second largest in Flanders with nearly 70,000 students. We have campuses in Bruges and Kortrijk, two historical towns in the province of

West-Flanders. We offer our students an interesting portfolio of 23 bachelor programmes, ranging from management studies, health care and nursing, energy management and product development to teaching, journalism and tourism. We are very proud that Howest is the largest University of Applied Sciences in West-Flanders, as far as programmes in computer technology, cybercrime, new media and digital arts and entertainment are concerned.



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howest
/ we develop people

ICHEC BRUSSELS MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

ICHEC BRUSSELS MANAGEMENT SCHOOL is a university college. It offers day and evening management programmes, both as initial training and continuous education.

ICHEC, revealer of talents, enables its students to develop their talents and


educates them to become responsible as well as open-minded managers. In order to accomplish this mission, ICHEC adopts a rigorous approach to its academic programmes informed by research with an emphasis on business practice. Our graduates gain the knowledge, skills and competences which are necessary to

embark on a lifelong learning process. The ICHEC spirit is founded on the values of respect, solidarity and integrity. ICHEC has more than 2,300 students, more than 12,000 alumni and a faculty of 200 academically qualified or professionally qualified members.



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ICHEC
BRUSSELS MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

KU LEUVEN

Situated in the heart of Western Europe, **KU Leuven** has been a centre of learning for nearly six centuries. Today, it is Belgium's largest university and one of the oldest and most renowned universities in Europe. As a leading European research university, KU Leuven offers a wide variety of international master's programmes, all supported by high-quality, innovative research.

KU Leuven offers its students an academic education based on high-level research, with the aim of preparing students to assume their social responsibilities. KU Leuven is a research-intensive, internationally oriented university that carries out both fundamental and applied research. It is strongly inter- and multidisciplinary in focus and strives for international excellence (QS World University Ranking: 71 - Times Higher Education World Ranking: 40). To this end KU Leuven works together actively with

its research partners at home and abroad. KU Leuven encourages personal initiative and critical reflection in a culture of exchange of ideas, cooperation, solidarity and academic freedom. It pursues a proactive diversity policy for its students and staff. KU Leuven aims to actively participate in public and cultural debate and in the advancement of a knowledge-based society. The university also offers degree programmes at campuses in 11 Belgian cities, including Brussels, Ghent and Antwerp.



LUC SELS

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LIEU (LIAISON ENTREPRISES UNIVERSITÉS)

LIEU is the network of Knowledge Transfer Offices of the universities and high education schools of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. LIEU aims at being a one stop shop system for the relationships between industry and academia.

KTOs are responsible for the Open Innovation activities in academic institutions, this means collaborative research, IP management, licensing and spin-offing. About 100 professionals are


involved in the network, which is active in two main areas, having a common approach with industry sectors, and developing common tools for managing projects and involving the academic community in the innovation process. Thus, 5 thematic working groups (Biohealth, Materials, Agrifood, Energy/environment, NanoTIC, Humanities) are in charge of consolidating in a common catalogue the competences and resources of the 10,000

researchers of the academic community and being the contact point for poles of competitiveness and clusters. On the other hand, the task is to detect, to protect, to mature and to find appropriate funding for transferring results and innovations into the market. LIEU is an active member of ASTP-Proton and the NAAC on the European level. LIEU has also active cooperation with the KT community in Québec Province.



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RESEARCH FOUNDATION – FLANDERS (FWO)

The **FWO** supports fundamental and strategic scientific research, stimulates international cooperation and promotes equal opportunity. The FWO funds excellent and promising researchers, as well as research projects, following an inter-


university competition. The evaluation is carried out by national and international experts. The selection follows the bottom-up principle and is conducted on an inter-university basis. The FWO stimulates international cooperation and encourages

international mobility by giving researchers the opportunity to gain experience or work as members of international research groups or by attracting researchers from abroad. The sole criterion is the outstanding quality of researcher and research proposal.



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THOMAS MORE

Thomas More is the largest university of applied sciences in Flanders, offering over 30 Dutch-taught and 5 English-taught bachelor degree programs.

16,000 students attend a course in one of our 7 campuses located in the heart of Flanders. Our campuses are close to several major cities such as Brussels and Antwerp. Through this central location we maintain a continuous connection with an ever-changing globalized world. By working closely with both employers in their respective fields and our own students,

Thomas More provides trend-setting high quality education as well as innovative applied research.

Thomas More offers also exchange programmes in English, for students from partner universities.

9 FIELDS OF EXPERTISE


1. Business & Tourism
2. Media & Entertainment | Communication | Journalism
3. Education
4. Social Work | Psychology |

- Occupational Therapy | Orthopedics | Speech Language & Audiology
5. Sports & Movement | Nursing & Midwifery | Nutrition and Dietetics
6. Chemistry | Laboratory Technology | Agro & Bio
7. Interior & Design | Construction | Energy
8. Mechanical Design & Production | Electromechanics | Automotive Technology
9. Electronics | Multimedia | ICT



MACHTELD VERBRUGGEN

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UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE LOUVAIN

Founded in 1425, **Université catholique de Louvain** (UCL) is one of Europe's oldest universities, with more than 30,000 students and 6 campuses: Louvain-la-Neuve, Brussels and four other sites; it is the largest French-speaking university in Belgium.

UCL trains students in all disciplines, from bachelor to doctorate level and on to adult continuing education. UCL is also the first

French-speaking university in Europe to offer open online courses or MOOCs (in French and English) on the online platform "edX" which offers online courses to millions of students.

With 21 Francqui Prizes ("the Belgian Nobel"), 30 ERC Grants and numerous international awards, teaching at UCL is based on solid research and innovation, with numerous practical applications for society

(62 spin-offs and more than 250 companies in the university's 3 science parks). In the 2017 Times Higher Education Rankings, UCL is ranked 129th, making it Belgium's leading French-speaking university. UCL educates almost every other French-speaking Belgian, and attracts 5,700 international students from around the globe every year. A quarter of the teaching staff comes from abroad.



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UNIVERSITÉ DE LIÈGE

Created in 1817 as a State University by William I, King of the Netherlands, the **Université de Liège** (ULiège) is now one of the largest and most international universities in Belgium, welcoming more than 23,000 students, of whom a quarter are of international origin (134 nationalities), plus 3,000 teachers and researchers. It numbers 10,000 staff members (including the university hospital). ULiège has links with 1,000 institutions worldwide. It guarantees the quality of the follow-up support given to exchange students, PhD and Postdoc researchers.

ULiège plays an important role as a creator of activities with high value added and in providing dynamism to technological centres uniting business companies and public operators (Biotechnologies, Life and Medical Sciences, Space Sciences and Industry, Environment). It is the francophone university which creates the largest number of spin-off companies springing from its laboratories, 100 which represent 1,600 high level new jobs. 11 Faculties: Philosophy and Letters / Law, Political Science and Criminology / Sciences / Medicine / Applied Sciences /

Veterinary Medicine / Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy and Education / HEC Liège School of Management / Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech / Social Sciences / Architecture.

Campus in 3 cities in Wallonia: Liège – Gembloux – Arlon

Visit us on www.uliege.be
#ULiège



ALBERT CORHAY

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UNIVERSITÉ DE NAMUR

Founded in 1831 by the Society of Jesus, the **Université de Namur** (UNamur) carries on the values of the humanistic tradition through teaching and research: universality, quality, ethical commitment and solidarity. Its priority is to educate students and researchers as responsible and active members of society.

Situated at the heart of Europe, the Université de Namur comprises 6 Faculties, offering some forty academic programs and welcomes about 6,500 students. Those programs are embedded in strong research capabilities. UNamur carries out research covering the main fields of knowledge, ranging from ethics to nanotechnologies,

from linguistics to computer science, from human rights to veterinary science, and so on, with the constant objective to contribute to knowledge development and to nurture excellence in higher education.



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UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES

Major university of Brussels'city, with more than 28,000 students, in the heart of Europe, the **Université libre de Bruxelles** (ULB) is the most multicultural university in French-speaking Belgium, with one third of students and half of its 1,900 PhD students coming from abroad. ULB's outward-looking position with regard to Europe and the world has resulted in 13 Erasmus Mundus Programmes and 345 active partnership with some of the world's top universities such as Oxford, Cambridge, Berkeley, UPMC-Paris, Waseda,

Sao Paulo or Beihang, and has built a special consortium (The G3) with Geneva and Montreal. Research driven University, ULB four scientific Nobel Prizes (out of the six awarded to Belgians in total), among them the Nobel Prize in Physics 2013, one Fields Medal, three Wolf Prizes are further evidence of the university's longstanding tradition of excellence. Since 2013, ULB awarded 29 ERC grants, one of the most competitive European funding. ULB has 12 faculties, schools and institutes that cover all the disciplines, closely combining

teaching and research, it also includes a large scope university hospital (Erasmé hospital) and a scientific park (Biopark) dedicated to technological innovation. Since its foundation in 1834, based on the principle of free enquiry that postulates independent reasoning and the rejection of all dogma, ULB has retained its original ideals as a free institution internationally oriented that is firmly engaged in the defense of democratic and human values.



YVON ENGLERT

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UNIVERSITÉ SAINT-LOUIS – BRUXELLES

Dating back to 1858, the **Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles** is a human and social sciences university located in the centre of Brussels, offering education to some 4,000 students in four faculties. Well-known for its bilingual and trilingual (French-English-Dutch) programmes at undergraduate level, the university specialises in Philosophy,

Letters and Humanities (Degrees in Philosophy, History, Romance languages and literature, Germanic languages and literature), Law (Degree in Law), Economics, Social, Political and Communication Sciences (Degrees in Business Engineering, Economics and Management, Political Sciences, Information and Communication,

and Sociology and Anthropology), European Studies (Degrees in European Studies) as well as Translation and Interpreting (Degrees in 10 different languages). Overall, the university offers 11 Bachelor programmes, 7 Master and Advanced Master programmes and 8 Doctoral programmes.



PIERRE JADOUL

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UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP

The University of Antwerp is a young, dynamic, internationally renowned research university, with more than 20,000 students and 5,500 staff members in 9 faculties and various specialized institutes. It has a particularly strong expertise in the following key areas of research: Harbour, Transport and Logistics; Imaging; Neurosciences; Infectious Diseases;


Drug Discovery and Development; Materials Characterisation; Ecology and Sustainable Development; Urban History and Contemporary Urban Policy; Social Economic Policy and Organisation. The University of Antwerp is ranked 10th in the QS worldwide ranking of young research universities, 'Top 50 under 50'. Internationalisation of education

and scientific research is seen as a key condition for achieving quality and relevance in today's globalised society. International networking and collaboration is therefore a strategic priority. A strong relationship with partner institutions in Canada is of particular importance for the University of Antwerp.



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university in the cosmopolitan city of Brussels, we want to be perceived as an open, independent university platform, embedded in international networks. VUB, together with the hospital, is the largest Dutch-speaking employer in the Brussels Region.



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RECTOR



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A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely Chicago, viewed from across a body of water. The buildings are illuminated with various lights, and their reflections are visible in the water. The sky is a deep blue. Two short yellow horizontal lines are positioned above and below the text.

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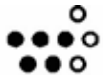
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CULTURAL ACTORS

Organisations and Personalities that will contribute to Cultural
Events taking place in the framework of the State Visit



BELGIAN NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

For more than 80 years, the Belgian National Orchestra has been presenting an inspiring repertoire of symphonic music from past and present. The Orchestra strives to enrich its program through its artistic, educational and social projects.

The Belgian National Orchestra was founded in 1936. Ever since, the Orchestra has grown and has deepened its bonds to its public in Belgium and abroad. It attracts a large audience to concert halls all over the world, but principally to the prestigious Henry Le Bœuf Hall at the Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels where the orchestra proposes its own series of concerts.

The orchestra has performed with world-famous artists such as Janine Jansen, Roberto Alagna, Anna Netrebko, Hélène Grimaud, Vadim Repin and Gidon Kremer. At the same time, a strong bond is developing between the Belgian National Orchestra and young, promising musicians, through the collaboration with the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel and the Queen Elisabeth Competition. The Belgian National Orchestra has a number of award-winning CDs to its name and has toured in Japan, Spain, Switzerland and - just recently and to great critical acclaim - in Germany and Central Europe.



BELGIAN
NATIONAL ORCHESTRA



THE CENTRE FOR
FINE ARTS, BRUSSELS
BOZAR

As the oldest and biggest art house of Belgium, the Centre for Fine Arts is intended to be the model for the European cultural centre of the 21st century.

The overarching BOZAR cultural project of the Centre for Fine Arts combines the work of a dynamic concert and exhibition venue with the underpinning of multidisciplinary operations. The programme revolves around the quality of the artistic offer that opens doors to a diverse audience. Starting from this central artistic mission, the links

and exchanges between the disciplines and cultures are becoming increasingly important and BOZAR is becoming an agora dedicated to cultural and social developments.

With multidisciplinary and cross-sectorial programmes, BOZAR provides a manifold experience and guidance, helping to spread the knowledge of art and culture in interaction with the wider world.

The richly filled programme of BOZAR can be found at: www.bozar.be.

**BO
ZAR**



LA MONNAIE / DE MUNT

Throughout history and under various regimes, Brussels has built up an identity of its own from the merging of peoples and cultures that rightly reinforces the city in its role as the capital of Europe. Likewise, its main theatre, inaugurated in 1700 and therefore one of the continent's oldest cultural institutions, opened its doors to the various European cultural movements that interwove with and succeeded each other. Being the keystone of Belgian cultural life and, since the sixties, the heart of the international dance scene, La Monnaie again gained international acclaim in the world of opera under its director Gerard Mortier (1981-1991). This great increase in appeal was transformed into numerous coproductions and tours that only confirmed the prestige of the Brussels opera. Bernard Foccroulle (1992-2007) followed the artistic policies of his predecessor, enlarging the repertoire to include Baroque music and contemporary

creation and inviting such leading artists as Sir Antonio Pappano, Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker and Philippe Boesmans. The current director Peter de Caluwe arrived in 2007. Whilst remaining faithful to the importance given bold theatrical approaches during the two previous decades, he nonetheless introduced new aesthetics and hired a new generation of directors and singers. This policy has elicited many accolades in the international press who keep La Monnaie within the top league of opera houses. Opernwelt, most notably, pronounced La Monnaie 'Best opera house of the year' in 2011. Today, more than ever convinced that a profound experience of opera, dance, concerts and recitals broadens the general awareness of human society and the human condition, La Monnaie is continuing to realise its role as an inclusive and open place of creation, serving all generations and communities.

LA MONNAIE/DE MUNT



MARIE-NICOLE LEMIEUX
CONTRALTO

After winning the Concours Reine Elisabeth singing contest in Brussels in 2000, Quebec contralto Marie-Nicole Lemieux built an international career and now sings on the world's most prestigious stages: La Scala, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Opéra National de Paris, Théâtre des Champs Elysées, La Monnaie, Staatsoper Berlin, München and Wien, Zürich Opernhaus, Theater an der Wien, Teatro Real in Madrid, Liceu in Barcelona, Salzburg Festival, Glyndebourne Festival, Canadian Opera Company in Toronto and Montreal Opera.

Her powerful voice, her superb sense of line and a flawless virtuosity combined with her sense of nuance and drama allows her to triumph in various repertoires. The beginning of her career is marked by baroque music (Orphée by Gluck, Giulio Cesare, Ariodante, Orlando Furioso, Salomon, Theodora...). The evolution of her voice

soon allowed her to take on the French repertoire of the XIXth century (Les Troyens, Pelléas et Mélisande, Samson et Dalila, Carmen...), Rossini (Guillaume Tell, Tancredi, L'Italiana in Algeri...) and also Verdi (Mrs. Quickly in Falstaff, Azucena in Trovatore, Ulrica of Ballo in Maschera...).

She is acclaimed as a peerless recital artist with an exceptional vocal palette having a special talent for French and Russian songs, as well as German lieder.

Her rich and varied discography has often been rewarded, and in 2017, Marie-Nicole Lemieux started a collaboration with Warner Classics.



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FILIP JORDENS

CHANSONNIER

Theater director, singer and actor Filip Jordens (1975) graduated from the Studio Herman Teirlinck in 2000 with a master in variety entertainment. He performed his self composed theater monologue “La Mort de Muriël” at the festival Theater Aan Zee in Oostende. In 2002, he plays in Marius-La Trilogie by De Onderneming.

With his production Hommage à Brel, Jordens toured in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Germany as well as Hong Kong, Dubai and Uganda. In 2004, Jordens performed his Brel program in the prestigious Berlin theater Bar Jeder Vernunft.

In 2011, he collaborated with composer / arranger Michel Bisceglia to create Brel

Symphonique with the Ghent University Orquestra. In 2013, he sang in front of an audience of 13,000 people in the Marollen area of Brussels during the Bal National and in 2017, he opened the cultural season with an open air concert together with the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra for 4,500 people.

In “Goddam! A Tribute to Dr. Nina Simone” (2004), Jordens sings, together with other vocalists, including Gregory Frateur and Tutu Puoane, songs by jazz legend Nina Simone. In 2009, he plays with the Nederlands Philharmonisch Kamerorkest in Le Carnaval des Animaux / Babar. The same year he collaborates with Björn Schmelzter from Grain de La Voix to create Muntagna Nera.

Filip Jordens belongs to the artistic core of the company Bad Van Marie.

In 2015, he interpreted Léon Degrelle in Le sec et l’humide by Guy Cassiers for Toneelhuis in Antwerp, a production

that was shown during the 2017 Festival d’Avignon. Furthermore he performed or performs with Het Paleis, de Koninklijke Vlaamse Schouwburg, Luxemburg, Het Toneelhuis, Speeltheater Holland, Compagnie Marius, Theater Stap and many others.

Jordens can be seen in the feature film Lijmen/het Been by Robbe De Hert and in De Laatste Zomer by Joost Wynant, as well as in a series of short films and tv shows. He also works as an acting teacher for the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp.

2018 has a number of exceptional projects in store for Filip Jordens. He will be involved in the multimedia documentary symphonic concert Je m’appelle Jacques Brel in Vorst Nationaal in Brussels. Furthermore, he will interpret the titel role of Don Quichotte in a production of L’Homme de La Mancha in the Koninklijke Vlaamse Schouwburg and La Monnaie.

CONCERT 13 MARCH 2018, OTTAWA
CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY THEATRE
STARTING TIME **19.30**

ARTISTS & COLLABORATORS

Marie-Nicole Lemieux, Contralto
Filip Jordens, Chansonnier
Harold Noben, Composer
Gwen Cresens, Composer & Accordionist
Maarten Lingier, Pianist
Tamako Azuma, Violin
Marie-Daniëlle Turner, Violin
Katelijne Onsia, Viola
Sébastien Walnier, Cello
Simon Van Rompay, Video
Jacques Peeters, Artistic Production