



Press release

10/24/12



PUBLICIS GROUPE LEGAL DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS

ALAIN SCHWINDENHAMMER IS NAMED SPECIAL LEGAL ADVISOR

CELINE FRONVAL JOINS AS HEAD OF LEGAL (FRANCE)

GREG RITTS BECOMES DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL (GLOBAL)

"I would like to express my warmest thanks to Alain for his steadfast loyalty over the past 34 years. Alain's tireless commitment, meticulous attention and ongoing determination created a first-rate French legal team at the core of Publicis Groupe. His expertise was of value to all our agencies in France, in addition to the corporate headquarters where Publicis originated. I'm delighted that he's agreed to stay on and that he will continue to work with us as Special Advisor to the legal department," declared Maurice Lévy, Chairman and CEO of Publicis Groupe.

Publicis Groupe [Euronext Paris : FR0000130577] today announced three senior appointments that strengthen its legal department.

Alain Schwindenhammer has been named Special Advisor to the Publicis Groupe legal department. Céline Fronval has joined the Groupe as the new Head of legal in France, while Greg Ritts has been promoted to the newly created post of Deputy General Counsel - International.

Alain Schwindenhammer joined Publicis in 1978, soon after completing his studies in law from the Université Paris II (Assas). He began as a legal expert specialized in advertising law, and was named head of legal in France in 1985. He oversaw the legal aspects of key activity in France and witnessed the transformation of Publicis Groupe from French advertising agency to the third largest communications group in the world. After 34 years of service to Publicis Groupe, Alain Schwindenhammer has expressed a wish to take on the new role as Special Advisor to the legal department.

Céline Fronval started her career at Alcatel in 1992. In 1997 she joined the mergers and acquisitions department of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett in New York. She then returned to France in 2002 and ran her own legal practice specialized in advising small and medium-sized companies. She created the legal and regulatory departments of 118 218 Le Numero, a company providing telecommunications services in 2006, and three years later became Chief Legal Officer of legal at Betclit Everest Group, a joint venture between Lov Group and Société des Bains de Mer.

Greg Ritts started his career in 1994 in the corporate department of Nixon Peabody and then moved to Perkins Coie in Seattle. From 1998 to 2004, he worked at Microsoft as lead attorney, supporting several MSN global business units. Greg joined aQuantive in 2004 as Deputy General Counsel, and was then promoted to Vice President and General Counsel of Razorfish LLC following the acquisition of aQuantive by Microsoft in 2007. Following the acquisition of Razorfish LLC in 2009 by Publicis Groupe, Greg Ritts served as Deputy General Counsel, Media at Re:Sources USA.

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“Please join me in thanking Alain for his tireless work and in saluting his decision to stay on as Special Advisor to the Publicis Groupe legal department. I am also pleased to welcome both Céline and Greg to their new functions,” said Anne-Gabrielle Heilbronner, Senior Vice President Compliance and Legal of Publicis Groupe. *“Our company will benefit greatly from Céline’s diversified experience in law and finance and from Greg’s substantial knowledge of our business. These additions will be a tremendous resource. I am confident that Céline will be successful in leading the French legal department and that Greg will bring great value-added to the Publicis Groupe central legal department.”*

About Publicis Groupe

Publicis Groupe [Euronext Paris FR0000130577, part of the CAC 40 index] is the third largest communications group in the world, offering the full range of services and skills: digital and traditional advertising, public affairs and events, media buying and specialized communication. Its major networks are Leo Burnett, MSLGROUP, PHCG (Publicis Healthcare Communications Group), Publicis Worldwide, Rosetta and Saatchi & Saatchi. VivaKi, the Groupe’s media and digital accelerator, includes Digitas, Razorfish, Starcom MediaVest Group and ZenithOptimedia. Present in 104 countries, the Groupe employs 56,000 professionals.

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