

MEDIA RELEASE

UNIVEG Katopé France opens its new Operations Centre at Rungis International Market

On 19 May 2011, UNIVEG Katopé France opened its new Operations Centre. The opening of the new UNIVEG Operations Centre in France confirms that the UNIVEG Group, with presence in 25 countries, focuses on the development of its business in France.

The opening ceremony was held in the presence of Mr Spielrein, Chairman of Rungis Market; Mr Nicolas Morinière, Managing Director of the French operations of UNIVEG; Mr Theo de Kool, CEO of the UNIVEG group; and regional government officials.

In addition, a large number of UNIVEG's customers, professional partners and representatives of the trade and services sectors attended the inauguration ceremony.

A smart, responsible building

Located in Rungis, in the heart of the centre of the largest food market in the world, the new Operations Centre, with a floor surface of 7000 m², includes a warehouse area, a ripening store, a packaging station, a quality laboratory and 1500 m² of offices, all in the same building.

Remarkable is the state-of-the art technology used to build the Operations Centre. This new technology guarantees major energy savings while still meeting the strictest demands.

The facility is especially designed to provide storage, ripening, packaging and distribution of fresh produce, with optimum conditions, and at a single location.

In order to comply with the stated operational requirements, the building includes 15 loading docks and 2700 m² of ripening and packaging space.

The construction of this new building will help UNIVEG Katopé France develop new opportunities while establishing and maintaining lasting relationships with its customers and suppliers.

"This tool, with a total cost of € 12 million, shows that UNIVEG Katopé France is willing to grow in France, as well as providing the means for the company to meet its ambitious growth targets. Due to its size and its functionality, this new tool will help develop the UNIVEG business model in France, considerably expanding the services we offer our customers", says Francis Kint, Fruits & Vegetables CEO of the UNIVEG group.

Sint-Katelijne-Waver, Belgium, 19 May 2011

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The UNIVEG group is a worldwide supplier of fresh produce, specialising in fruits and vegetables, flowers and plants, convenience goods, logistics and transport. The Belgian subsidiary of the UNIVEG group has annual sales of €3 billion and a workforce of more than 9,500 employees worldwide.