



*Press release*

## **Groupe Auchan buys Real Eastern Europe hypermarkets from METRO GROUP for € 1.1 billion**

**Croix, 30 November 2012** – Today, Groupe Auchan signed an agreement with the German retailer METRO GROUP about the divestment of Real's business in Central and Eastern Europe. Group Auchan will take over the operational activities and the respective real estate assets of the METRO GROUP subsidiary in Poland, Romania, Russia and Ukraine.

The agreement still requires approval by the relevant antitrust authorities. Subject to this approval, the operation will be completed in 2013.

In the future, the Real hypermarkets in Central and Eastern Europe will operate under the Auchan brand.

The sale of Real Eastern Europe to Groupe Auchan comprises 91 Real hypermarkets in Poland, Russia, Romania and Ukraine, including 13 shopping mall locations in Russia and Romania. In these four countries, Real has reached sales of more than € 2.6 billion in 2011 and has a workforce of around 20,000 employees.

Auchan operates 98 hypermarkets and has a workforce of more than 65,000 employees in these four countries.

Vianney Mulliez, chairman of the Board of Directors of Groupe Auchan, considers that *“with the purchase of 91 high-quality stores and 13 shopping malls, Groupe Auchan takes the opportunity to balance its presence in Central and Eastern Europe, its two other priority development zones being Western Europe and Asia. It is also an opportunity to offer an even better service to our customers, with very professional teams, both in Real and Auchan, that we fully trust.”*

*“With Auchan, we found the most suitable buyer for Real's business activities in Eastern Europe. Auchan offers good development perspectives for the Real hypermarkets and their employees”,* said Olaf Koch, Chairman of the Management Board of METRO AG.

### **About Groupe Auchan**

GROUPE AUCHAN is the world's 12th largest food retailer. It operates in 12 countries and has 269,000 employees. It is structured into 5 core businesses: hypermarkets (655 fully-consolidated stores and 23 under management mandates, associated or franchised ), supermarkets (767 fully-consolidated stores and 1,665 franchised and associated ), retail real estate (Immochan), banking (Oney Banque Accord), e-commerce, and other activities. The Group's vision is to improve the purchasing power and quality of life for the greatest number of customers, with responsible, professional, committed and respected employees.

In 2011, Auchan Group reached a consolidated revenue excluding taxes of 44.4 billion euros, 55% coming from outside France.

More information at [www.groupe-auchan.com](http://www.groupe-auchan.com)

### **About Real**

The hypermarket chain real,- is a member of METRO GROUP. real,- stands for a wide range of branded products, high levels of competency in freshness and good value for money. Under the umbrella of Real Group, the company manages 316 hypermarkets in Germany as well as another 110 in Poland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and Turkey. In fiscal year 2011, the company with about 70.000 employees reached net sales of € 11.2 billion. More information is available at [www.real.info](http://www.real.info) and [www.metrogroup.de](http://www.metrogroup.de).

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