

The SOL Group acquires Dolby Medical Limited

The SOL Group, through its Dutch based subsidiary AIRSOL BV, has acquired Dolby Medical Limited, who subsequently changed its name into Dolby Medical Home Respiratory Care Limited (DMHRC), a leader in delivering home respiratory care in Scotland.

DMHRC, headquartered in Stirling, Scotland (UK), provides throughout Scotland respiratory care services, equipment in a variety of settings, including concentrators, liquid oxygen and baby oxygen products.

Under the acquisition's terms, DMHRC management staff and employees will join VIVISOL Group (the division and brand name under which the SOL Group operates in the home care market), but the acquired company will operate as Dolby Medical Home Respiratory Care Limited (DMHRC).

"Adding DMHRC patient care capabilities enables our Group to offer a more complete product and service line in UK. We also are delighted to have former directors, Alan Speirs and Alistair Dick to continue working with us as respectively General Manager and Head of Finance and Administration." Said Giulio Junior Fumagalli Romario, Chairman and Managing Director of VIVISOL Group, the home care division of the SOL Group.

"We see this development as providing access to one of the most developed and demanding home care market in Europe that will help us improving additional level of service delivered to our patients. We are now positioned to expand our home care model and supply a broader range of products and services to the UK based patients." Said Marco Annoni, Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of VIVISOL Group.

Alan Speirs, General Manager of DMHRC said: "Our team is very excited to join the VIVISOL Group in this initiative. The VIVISOL Group has demonstrated a strong commitment to the highest quality care across continental Europe and we look forward to working with them on the UK expansion, combining our local expertise with VIVISOL Group's know-how to offer even more quality and improved services to our patients and customers."

The SOL Group, founded in 1927 in Monza (Italy), is the unique Italian player operating in two major fields of activity: industrial and medical gases business and home delivered respiratory treatments.

The SOL Group in the last 15 years has expanded its activities across its national boundaries over a larger EU and has seized business opportunities in Eastern Europe, widening its market and chance to grow in that fast growing area.

Today SOL offers a full range of products and services from its production and distribution plants and facilities based in Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, The Netherlands, and carries out reselling operations in Hungary, Slovakia and Switzerland.

The Group's production operations are carried out in 27 primary transformation plants (plants which produce gas from air, natural gases, calcium carbide and ammonium nitrate) and 35 secondary transformation plants (plants which produce pure and ultra pure gases and their mixtures and fill them into cylinders and liquid units).

In the healthcare market SOL has managed to expand the use of oxygen in medical applications and, through its wholly owned division VIVISOL, developed new technologies in respiratory related therapies and advanced home care treatments.

In the financial year ending December 2009, the SOL Group reported revenues in excess of 462 million euros, its operations were carried out by more than 1900 managers and employees and serviced more than 140.000 patients in the home care market across Europe.