

Press release

Brussels / Utrecht, 8 December 2009

Fortis and BlackRock, Inc. – Notification

In accordance with the rules on financial transparency, BlackRock, Inc. issued a notification on 4 December 2009 to declare that they now hold an interest of 3.39% in Fortis, following their acquisition of Barclays Global Investors (BGI) on 1st December 2009. Further to this acquisition, the combined holdings of BlackRock, Inc. has exceeded the statutory threshold of 3% of the shares issued by Fortis.

A copy of the notification form from sent by BlackRock, Inc. is attached to this press release.

The notifications received by Fortis are available on the Fortis website under "Investor relations – The share – Transparency requirements" (http://www.fortis.com/Shareholders/transparency_requirements.asp).

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Fortis consists of (1) a 75% ownership of AG Insurance, (2) Fortis Insurance International, (3) a 45% stake in Royal Park Investments - a structured credit portfolio entity - and (4) financial assets and liabilities of various financing vehicles. AG Insurance is the overall market leader in Belgium and the pre-eminent provider of services in the Employee Benefits sector. The international insurance activities (Fortis Insurance International) are located in the UK, where Fortis is the third largest player in the market for private car insurance, France, Hong Kong, Germany, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and joint ventures in Luxembourg (Life), Portugal, with Millenniumbcp Fortis being a clear market leader, China, Malaysia, India and Thailand. Fortis currently employs over 10,000 people.

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