



BRC Global Standards acquires Allergen Control Group, Inc.

3 April 2018, London, UK - BRC Global Standards ("BRC GS") has today announced the acquisition of Allergen Control Group, Inc. ("ACG"), owner and operator of the Gluten-Free Certification Program ("GFCP"), the food industry's only ISO 17021-accredited management system certification scheme for gluten-free food manufacturing facilities.

This investment extends BRC GS' and its owner LGC's food safety supply chain assurance standards business into a new vertical; the high growth North American gluten-free market and it will enable ACG to continue to add to its existing strong presence in Canada and the US.

Mark Proctor, CEO, BRC GS, said, "We are delighted to have completed this partnership with ACG. The GFCP, which is exclusively endorsed by the trusted coeliac societies, Beyond Celiac in the US and the Canadian Celiac Association, is highly respected by retailers and brand owners in North America and its capabilities are highly complementary to BRC GS' existing strengths across certification and brand protection. ACG serves leading food industry participants in the US and Canada and, over the past 7 years, has become the "go-to" company for all things gluten-free. We look forward to working with ACG's management to continue growing the business globally, while developing new and innovative solutions to meet our customers' needs."

Paul Valder, President, ACG, agreed, "As the global regulatory and food safety landscapes continue to evolve, together with the ever-changing needs of consumers, we will continue to provide "free-from" services dedicated to enhancing the quality of life. As we accelerate our strategic transition from a stand-alone gluten-free program to a global brand and consumer protection organisation offering a range of complimentary combined service options, BRC GS – and LGC – will be the ideal owner to help ACG provide incremental customer value and expanded international growth."

Valder adds, "There will be continuity in our management to ensure our customers receive the same high levels of service and support during this transition, as we also strive to improve the range of services and products for them."

BRC GS is a leading brand and consumer protection organisation, used by over 27,000 certificated suppliers over 130 countries, with certification issued through a global network of accredited certification bodies. BRC GS guarantees the standardisation of quality, safety and operational criteria and ensures that manufacturers fulfil their legal obligations and provide protection for the end-consumer.

www.brcglobalstandards.com

www.lgcgroup.com

www.glutenfreecert.com

Notes for editors

Mark Proctor and Paul Valder are available for interview, by request

Logos and images for BRC GS and ACG are available by request

About BRC Global Standards

BRC Global Standards is a leading brand and consumer protection organisation, used by over 27,000 suppliers in over 130 countries, with certification issued through a global network of accredited certification bodies. BRC Global Standards' guarantee the standardisation of quality, safety and operational criteria and ensure that manufacturers fulfil their legal obligations and provide protection for the end consumer. BRC Global Standards are now often a fundamental requirement of leading retailers, manufacturers and food service organisations.

The BRC Global Standards certification scheme offers comprehensive support to help new and established businesses to achieve and maintain their quality and safety aims.

For more information please visit www.brcglobalstandards.com

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About ACG

Allergen Control Group Inc (ACG) is North America's leading subject matter expert, developing and marketing specific risk based "free-from" food standards, for major grocery retailers, national brand owners and manufacturers, across food, natural health products, beverage and pharma industry sectors.

As owners of the only recognized ISO 17021-1 Gluten-Free Certification Program (GFCP), ACG offer brand owners the most stringent product safety assurances, combined with a credible brand message, which is endorsed by leading North American celiac organizations.

Established in 2012, ACG is Headquartered in Milton, CANADA and licenses 15 globally recognized ISO Certification Bodies and continues to train over 300 pre-screened food auditors, in the GFCP; who act as non-conflicting third-parties to audit and certify manufacturers, in over 18 countries.

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About LGC

LGC is an international leader in the extended life sciences sector, including human healthcare, agri-food & the environment. LGC provides a comprehensive range of reference materials, proficiency testing schemes, genomics reagents and instrumentation, as well as research and measurement services. Its scientific tools and solutions enable organisations to advance research, develop new products and form an essential part of their quality and compliance procedures.

LGC's 2,300 employees include internationally-recognised scientists who are experts in their field. Headquartered in London, it operates out of 19 countries worldwide and is extensively accredited to quality standards such as GMP, GLP, ISO 13485, ISO 17034, ISO 17043, ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 9001.

LGC has been home to the UK Government Chemist for more than 100 years and is the UK National Measurement Laboratory and Designated Institute for chemical and bio measurement. LGC has been privately-owned since 1996 and has diversified through internal investment and acquisition to be an international leader in its chosen niche markets. LGC is now owned by funds affiliated with KKR.

For more information, please visit www.lgcgroup.com

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