



Better living

Press Release

Ecully, January 8, 2019

## **Groupe SEB acquires American player Wilbur Curtis and becomes one of the leaders in the US professional coffee equipment**

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Groupe SEB is glad to announce the acquisition of Wilbur Curtis, the second largest American manufacturer of professional coffee equipment. The transaction is subject to customary regulatory clearances and is expected to be finalized in February 2019.

Founded in 1941, Wilbur Curtis manufactures and markets equipment for the preparation of hot and cold beverages, mainly filter coffee and cappuccino machines. Sustained investment and a continuous commitment to innovation have enabled Wilbur Curtis to offer many of the US market's best-in-class product offerings.

Wilbur Curtis' sales have been increasing steadily, amounting to more than \$90M, primarily in the US. Major customers include coffee roasters, specialty coffee retailers, convenience stores, fast-food chains, hotels and restaurants. Wilbur Curtis has built and maintains a long-term relationship with its customers, leveraging its professional salesforce and ensuring extensive national coverage. Its high-performance production facility located in Montebello, California, employs 300 people.

**Thierry de La Tour d'Artaise, Chairman and CEO of Groupe SEB** stated :

*« Following the acquisition of WMF in 2016, Groupe SEB confirms its determination to pursue expansion in the professional coffee industry, which offers great development opportunities worldwide. As a specialist in filter coffee machines in the United States, Wilbur Curtis represents for the Group -that is already present on this market with Schaerer and WMF full-automatic espresso machines- a very valuable strategic complement to its product offering and customer portfolio. As a result, Groupe SEB becomes one of the leaders in the professional coffee business in the United States.»*

As with past acquisitions, the transaction will be debt-financed and the Group will use existing credit lines.

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[www.wilburcurtis.com](http://www.wilburcurtis.com)

**Upcoming events – 2019**

<b>January 23</b>   after market closes	Provisional 2018 sales
<b>February 28</b>   before market opens	2018 sales and results
<b>April 25</b>   after market closes	Q1 2019 sales and financial data
<b>May 22</b>   2:30 pm	Annual General Meeting
<b>July 24</b>   before market opens	H1 2019 sales and results
<b>October 24</b>   after market closes	9-month 2019 sales and financial data

**CONTACTS**

Groupe SEB  
 Financial Communication  
 and Investor Relations Dept  
 Isabelle Posth & Raphaël Hoffstetter  
 Tél. : +33 (0) 4 72 18 16 40  
[comfin@groupeseb.com](mailto:comfin@groupeseb.com)

Groupe SEB  
 Corporate Communication Dept  
 Cathy Pianon & Anissa Djaadi  
 Tél. : +33 (0) 4 72 18 17 20  
[com@groupeseb.com](mailto:com@groupeseb.com)

Image Sept  
 Caroline Simon  
 Claire Doligez  
 Isabelle Dunoyer de Segonzac  
 Tél. : +33 (0) 1 53 70 74 70  
[seb@image7.fr](mailto:seb@image7.fr)

Find us on [www.groupeseb.com](http://www.groupeseb.com)



The world reference in small domestic equipment, Groupe SEB has a unique portfolio of top brands including Tefal, Rowenta, Moulinex, Krups, Lagostina, All-Clad, WMF, EMSA and Supor, marketed through multi-format retailing. Selling some 300 million products a year, it implements a long-term strategy focused on innovation, international development, competitiveness and service to clients. Groupe SEB operates in nearly 150 countries and has around 33,000 employees worldwide.

**SEB SA**

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