EuroCommerce appoints new Director General

PRESS RELEASE

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EuroCommerce, the federation representing the retail, wholesale and international trade sectors in Europe, is pleased to announce the appointment today of Dr. Christian Verschueren as its new Director General.

Dr. Verschueren, currently Director General of the Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment, will take up the position on 1st July.

A Belgian national, Dr. Verschueren has a scientific background and a strong experience in managing European and global business federations in different sectors.

"The commerce sector is facing very significant challenges. Dr. Verschueren brings the necessary skills and experience to help us face them,” said Dr. von Leoprechting, President of EuroCommerce.

The outgoing Secretary General, Xavier R. Durieu, announced last summer his wish to pursue other interests after 10 years of leadership and service to the commerce sector. “I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the team and the members for their tremendous support during the years in making EuroCommerce a key player on all issues relating to commerce.”

"We would like to thank Xavier for his commitment and hard work over the past years in making EuroCommerce a strong and healthy organisation” concluded Dr. von Leoprechting.
"We wish him all the very best in his future career.”

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**EuroCommerce and the commerce sector**

EuroCommerce represents the retail, wholesale and international trade sectors in Europe. Its membership includes commerce federations and companies in 31 European countries.

Commerce plays a unique role in the European economy, acting as the link between manufacturers and the nearly 500 million consumers across Europe over a billion times a day. It is a dynamic and labour-intensive sector, generating 11% of the EU’s GDP. One company out of three in Europe is active in the commerce sector. Over 95% of the 6 million companies in commerce are small and medium-sized enterprises. It also includes some of Europe’s most successful companies. The sector is a major source of employment creation: 31 million Europeans work in commerce, which is one of the few remaining job-creating activities in Europe. It also supports millions of dependent jobs throughout the supply chain from small local suppliers to international businesses.