



Paris-La Défense, January 31, 2008

## **Bureau Veritas statement regarding investigations led by the European Commission involving several ship classification companies**

Following the announcement by the European Commission of inspections at the premises of several European providers of ship classifications services, Bureau Veritas confirms that inspectors of the Commission visited its headquarters on January 29 and 30 and that the company is cooperating fully with the authorities in their investigations.

Bureau Veritas does not believe that there is any foundation to allegations that some ship classification companies, members of IACS (International Association of Classifications Societies), may have violated the competition rules of the European Union.

As a classification company, Bureau Veritas contributes to the safety of ships and to the protection of the sea environment and is committed to ensure a high level of technical competence in the accomplishment of its conformity assessment missions.

### **About Bureau Veritas**

*Founded in 1828, Bureau Veritas is an international group specialised in the inspection, analysis, audit, and certification of products, infrastructure (buildings, industrial sites, equipment, ships, etc.) and management systems (ISO standards etc.) in relation to regulatory or voluntary frameworks.*

*Bureau Veritas ranks as the world's second largest group in conformity assessment and certification services in the fields of quality, health and safety, environment, and social responsibility ("QHSE") and the world leader in QHSE services not including commodity testing. Bureau Veritas is recognised and accredited by major national and international organisations.*

*Bureau Veritas is present in 140 countries through a network of 700 offices and laboratories. It has more than 30,000 employees and a client base of more than 280,000.*

*Since 24 October 2007, Bureau Veritas has been listed on the Euronext Paris Eurolist (Compartment A, code ISIN FR 0006174348, mnemonic: BVI).*

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