

Elster Group Names Simon Beresford-Wylie New CEO

Luxembourg, 4 November 2009. Elster Group, the world's largest technology and innovation driven provider of smart metering and smart grid systems and solutions to the gas, electricity and water industries, has appointed Simon Beresford-Wylie as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective immediately.

Mr. Beresford-Wylie (51) joins Elster from Nokia Siemens Networks (NSN), one of the world's largest telecommunications infrastructure and network solutions companies, where he was CEO and a member of the Nokia Group Executive Board.

"Simon Beresford-Wylie's deep experience leading and transforming a global technology company that combined hardware, software and professional services into a portfolio of advanced customer solutions is directly relevant to Elster," said Howard Dyer, Chairman of Elster Group. "He will bring exceptional value to our customers and also to the Group as it moves into a period of sustained growth driven by the transition to smart grid technology."

Mr. Dyer has led the business and will continue serving as the company's Chairman, a position he has held since 2005.

"I am excited and honoured to have been asked to lead Elster, a Group with a 170 year heritage that has seen exceptional growth over the past several years as it transformed into a company providing advanced metering and smart grid solutions to help its customers and consumers conserve precious energy resources," said Mr. Beresford-Wylie.

"Elster has a superb set of assets and capabilities, including global presence and scale, one of the world's largest combined installed bases of electricity, gas and water meters, talented people, and a long history of developing and providing innovative, trusted solutions to its customers. These assets, and the Group's pioneering role in smart grid development, provide an excellent springboard for growth. I am looking forward to contributing to this next phase of growth", said Mr. Beresford-Wylie

About Smart Metering and the Smart Grid

Electric utilities worldwide are integrating smart-grid technology into their transmission and distribution systems, utilizing integrated smart metering solutions like those provided by Elster to:

- Reduce the loss of electricity as it moves from the generating plant to homes and businesses; the reduction of delivery losses can have a direct environmental and economic impact by increasing efficiency and reducing carbon emissions;
- Assist utilities in better locating the area of an outage before dispatching crews, reducing outage time for customers



Press release

- Improve monitoring and control capabilities of the system while enhancing proven grid reliability

On October 27, 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy awarded \$3.4 billion in federal funding under the Obama Administration's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to 100 utility projects with the goal of accelerating deployment of advanced smart-grid technology, including the installation of at least 18 million smart meters. The deployment of smart meters under the new program would increase the number of smart meters in the U.S. to approximately 40 million homes, or between one-quarter and one-third of the total homes in the nation.

Additional Biographical Information on Simon Beresford-Wylie

Mr. Beresford-Wylie joined the Nokia Group in 1998 and led NSN since its inception in 2007. From 1998 to 2007, he held a variety of senior leadership positions within the Nokia Group in Asia-Pacific and Europe. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Beresford-Wylie was CEO of Indian mobile network operator Modi Telstra, and prior to this was an executive with Australia's Telstra Corporation. He holds a degree from the Australian National University, and is a graduate of the Executive Development Program of Stanford University/National University of Singapore.

About Elster Group

Elster is global leader in advanced metering infrastructure, integrated metering, and utilization solutions to the gas, electricity and water industries. Elster's systems and solutions reflect over 170 years of knowledge and experience in measuring precious resources and energy. Elster provides solutions and advanced technologies to help utilities more easily, efficiently and reliably obtain and use advanced metering intelligence to implement energy conservation measures, improve customer service, enhance operational efficiency, and increase customer benefits. Elster's AMI solutions enable utilities to cost-effectively deliver, manage, and conserve the life-essential resources of gas, electricity, and water.

Elster has delivered more than six million devices worldwide with more than 60 smart systems located in North America, Europe, Central America, Australia, New Zealand and the Caribbean. Elster has more than 7,000 staff and operations in 38 countries, focused in North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Elster Group (formerly Ruhrgas Industries) was acquired by funds advised by CVC Capital Partners from the German utility group E.ON in September 2005.

In 2008, Elster generated revenues of €1.3 billion or \$1.9 billion.



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