

8 September 2014

MINOR DKL ANNOUNCES STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN RETAIL FOOD BRANDS

**VENEZIANO COFFEE ROASTERS
THE GROOVE TRAIN
COFFEE HIT**

Leading Australian retail food brand franchisor, Minor DKL Food Group (Minor DKL), today announced it has entered into several conditional Share Purchase Agreements to acquire a controlling stake in Melbourne-based VGC Food Group comprising:



Veneziano Coffee Roasters: a leading speciality roasting house, supplying in excess of 500 tonnes of freshly roasted coffee annually, predominantly direct sourced from origin plantations, to wholesale and retail customers throughout Australia from roasting facilities in Melbourne and Brisbane. Veneziano Coffee Roasters is also recognised for its coffee leadership having been awarded numerous roasting and barista accolades by industry bodies.



The Groove Train: a casual dining (bar / restaurant) franchise system offering quality food and beverages in a 'funky / modern' atmosphere with 18 stores in Victoria and Queensland.



Coffee Hit: a unique speciality coffee franchise system offering an enhanced retail coffee experience to customers via beverage and whole-bean trade with 7 stores in Victoria and Queensland.

Minor DKL anticipates settlement during September 2014 following the completion of customary transaction conditions, with the acquired businesses to be grouped and operated collectively as VGC Food Group.

Minor DKL CEO, Mr Jason Ball said, "We are excited to announce our investment in three premium retail food brands which align with our strategic objective of being a global leader in retail food, coffee and franchising and complement our existing retail food franchise system portfolio. The acquisitions represent the conclusion of more than a year of due diligence and we are pleased to partner with the founders in driving further development and expansion for the benefit of all stakeholders".

"VGC Food Group will continue to be operated under the guidance and stewardship of founders Mr Craig Dickson and Mr Rocky Veneziano, supported by the infrastructure and resources of both Minor DKL throughout Australia and New Zealand, and more broadly throughout Asia in conjunction with our partner company, Thai-listed Minor International", Mr Ball said.

"Whilst Veneziano Coffee Roasters, The Groove Train and Coffee Hit will be managed independently of Minor DKL's existing retail food franchise systems, there exists substantial synergies through leveraging supply chain, property, leasing, training and information technology infrastructure. These will be gradually realised throughout 2015 following a period of establishment and integration", Mr Ball said.

Veneziano Coffee Roasters Managing Director, Mr Craig Dickson said, "We are very excited to partner with Minor DKL and Minor International to continue to invest and grow our brands in Australia and enter markets in New Zealand and Asia. Minor is known for successfully partnering with entrepreneurial founders thereby ensuring the founders' principles and objectives are maintained, whilst providing infrastructure and resources to effectively grow the brands; this is why we are excited about this opportunity".

Groove Train Managing Director, Rocky Veneziano said, "After 12 years of building our brands, it is very exciting for us, our franchisees and our team to be able to partner with Minor and achieve our expansion goals. The partnership will ensure the long term success of our brands and provide fantastic opportunities for all our stakeholders, most importantly our Groove Train Restaurant and Coffee Hit franchise partners".

About Minor DKL Food Group:

Minor DKL Food Group is a leading Australian retail food brand franchisor. It is the franchisor and intellectual property owner of The Coffee Club and Ribs & Rumps Restaurants, with over 380 restaurants operating in 10 countries.

Minor DKL Food Group is the Australian subsidiary of Thai-listed Minor International PCL (MINT). Through its subsidiary, Minor Food Group, MINT is one of Asia's largest casual dining and quick-service restaurant companies, operating over 1,500 restaurants in 19 countries under The Pizza Company, Thai Express, The Coffee Club, Ribs & Rumps, Riverside, Swensen's, Sizzler, Dairy Queen and Burger King.

www.minordkl.com.au

www.minorinternational.com

About VGC Food Group:

VGC Food Group is the owner of Veneziano Coffee Roasters, a leading speciality coffee roasting house supplying wholesale and retail customers throughout Australia from roasting facilities in Melbourne and Brisbane. It is also the franchisor and intellectual property owner of The Groove Train and Coffee Hit franchise systems, with 25 restaurants operating throughout Australia.

www.venezianocoffee.com.au

www.groovetrain.com.au

www.coffeehit.com.au

ENDS

For further information, interviews or images contact:

Sarah Broad, Group PR & Communications Manager (07) 3010 3000