

PRESS RELEASE

Rexel Completes Acquisition of GE Supply

Transaction Reinforces Rexel at Forefront of Global Electrical Distribution Industry

Paris, France - August 8, 2006 – The Rexel Group (Rexel), the world’s leading distribution network of electrical supplies, today announced the completion of its acquisition of GE Supply, the electrical distribution business of GE Consumer & Industrial, a business unit of General Electric (NYSE:GE). The announcement follows the one of a purchase agreement signed on July 10, 2006*.

The total consideration for the transaction, valued at U.S. \$725 million, was financed through specific loans underwritten by JPMorgan and Calyon. JPMorgan also acted as exclusive financial advisor to Rexel in connection with the transaction. The consent of Rexel's Senior Lenders was obtained on July 24, 2006.

* Corresponding press release available on Rexel's website at: www.rexel.com

About Rexel Group

The number one worldwide distribution network for electrical supplies, Rexel is present in 24 countries. At the end of June 2006, the group had 1,700 branches and about 22,000 employees. It posted 2005 sales of €7.377 billion.

Upon completion of the GE Supply acquisition, the Rexel Group will operate through 1,897 branches and post aggregated sales of nearly €10 billion on a 2006 pro forma basis.

For more information, visit Rexel’s web site at www.rexel.com

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