

**Company announcement** no 2015-04

2 April 2015

**As part of the process described in Company announcement no 2015-01, William Demant has now signed a Share Purchase Agreement to acquire a controlling interest in Audika Groupe, one of the leading networks of hearing healthcare providers in France.**

Following the company announcement published on 17 February 2015, announcing the opening of exclusive negotiations for the purchase of 53.9% of the share capital in Audika Groupe (“Audika”), Audika’s works council rendered its opinion on 5 March 2015, and in accordance with the customary process in France, William Demant has now signed a Share Purchase Agreement with Holton S.A.S. to acquire the controlling interest held by Holton S.A.S. in Audika.

Closing of the transaction to purchase the 53.9% of the share capital in Audika is now only subject to approval by the French Competition Authority following which a mandatory public tender offer for the remaining 46.1% of the share capital in Audika outstanding will be launched (and, where applicable by a squeeze-out) at the same price as for the acquisition of the controlling interest of EUR 17.78 per share in accordance with French takeover regulations.

Timewise, the mandatory public tender offer is expected to close in June 2015 at the earliest or more likely in the second half of 2015.

*Further information:*

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