

Press Release

Softline extends their Services Portfolio with the acquisition of ASIST BVBA in Belgium, a specialist in Application Development & Integration

Softline continues European expansion via an acquisition in Belgium

Leipzig, 09 January 2012 – The Softline Group continues on its path for growth by announcing the acquisition of the Belgium enterprise. By acquiring ASIST, a specialist in the field of IBM application development and integration, Softline expands their services portfolio further internationally.

With the acquisition of the IBM application development and integration specialist, Softline AG successfully continues within their strategy to combine growth with synergies inside the Softline Group. Starting in May 2011, with the founding of Softline Systems & Services GmbH, Softline entered the market for complete solutions in the storage and server market, also for IBM solutions. With the acquisition of ASIST and together with its infrastructure consulting expertise, this solution stack has now been expanded to the application level.

The Softline Group, with the acquisition of ASIST, who have offices in Belgium, Luxemburg and Switzerland, manages to expand their European footprint for its customers. In addition, Softline customers can now be offered a complete solution stack, ranging from storage, via infrastructure to the application development layer.

ASIST was founded in 1995 by Maurice Brouwers (CEO) and Paul Pilotto (CTO) and ever since has focussed on supporting customers in the areas of Application Development, Application Lifecycle Management and Enterprise Modernization in the IBM arena. ASIST has some of the largest financial institutions around the world as their customers, including KBC, the International Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and Cornèr Banca of Switzerland.

Highly qualified and certified consulting and development experts offer ASIST's customers a complete service portfolio, from the provision of application developers, via the consultancy, migration, adaptation and modernization of applications, to the provision and maintenance of whole development environments. All this is coupled with associated trainings and project management. The most qualified areas of expertise are within IBM Rational, IBM WebSphere and DB2 environments. As an IBM Premier Business Partner, ASIST has privileged access to all global IBM Software Labs.

"I am delighted to welcome Maurice Brouwers and Paul Pilotto into the Softline Team. With their proven competencies and international presence they represent a valuable contribution to the Softline Group", commented Bernd Wagner, Softline CEO. "With the acquisition of ASIST we managed to further complete our services portfolio and as such can now not only offer our customers know-how inside their IT infrastructures, but also at their application level. With that we manage to especially better serve our larger, international customers, who in the modernisation of their enterprise-wide systems count on broad, yet highly qualified advice from our consultants."

"In joining Softline AG and their group of companies across Europe, we are becoming part of a recognized and internationally active IT services organisation, which like us has long standing expertise in IT consultancy, software asset management, as well as recruiting services. In an initial assessment with our new colleagues we were quickly able to identify topics where we can jointly expand our offerings portfolio and thereby creating immediate synergies, which allow us to deliver real value add towards our customers", added Maurice Brouwers, CEO of ASIST.

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About Softline AG

The Softline Group has its head office in Leipzig and operates throughout the whole of Europe. The group consists of Softline AG, which acts as the holding company, and its 100% subsidiaries Softline Solutions GmbH, Softline Systems & Services GmbH, Softline Solutions Netherlands B.V., Softline Solutions Norway (formerly STOVER AS), Softline Solutions N.V., STR (Software Technology Services) S.a.r.l., ASIST BVBA and Prometheus GmbH. The Softline Group is a financially stable company that enjoys continuous growth. It has developed into a recognised service provider in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector. Since its formation 2001, Prometheus GmbH has been one of the leading "service providers of service providers" for systems houses, hardware and software manufacturers, distributors and other ICT service providers. The Softline Solutions companies provide IT consulting, support and service that meets the highest demands in quality. In doing so, information technology, business processes and communication are also addressed. Softline AG was founded in 1983 and has been a listed company since February 2000. For more information, please visit www.softline-group.com.

Images can be downloaded from Softline AG's website

<http://www.softline-group.com/en/media.html>

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