

## PRESS RELEASE

Waalwijk, the Netherlands, January 2nd, 2015

### Evolution of the governance of Desso

Following the closing of the acquisition of Desso by Tarkett, it has been agreed that Alexander Collot d'Escury, CEO of the Executive Board of Desso, will leave the company as per 5th January 2015. Remco Teulings, President of Tarkett EMEA Division, will be appointed CEO of Desso in addition to his current responsibilities.

Alexander Collot d'Escury has been part of Desso's Executive Board since the end of 2007, initially as Chief Commercial Officer and since 2012 as CEO.

Under his leadership Desso realised a strong profit growth, through ground breaking innovations and a focus on geographical- and channel expansion. Desso's Vision 'To make the Floor work for people's Health and Wellbeing' played a crucial role in the transformation of the company as well as its leadership position in the field of Cradle to Cradle® and Circular Economy. As a result of this strategy, Desso has been able to grow its European market share in commercial carpet tiles significantly.

*Alexander Collot d'Escury: "I am very proud with the outstanding results that Desso's employees have realised since 2007. These achievements have ultimately led to the acquisition of Desso by Tarkett. The acquisition will provide Desso with the opportunity to further strengthen its international growth potential. My task is completed and I leave with a very good feeling, knowing that Desso will be part of the Tarkett Family."*

*Michel Giannuzzi, CEO of Tarkett: "I would like to give credit to the Desso team for the excellent work done in terms of innovation and growth accomplished under the leadership of Alexander Collot d'Escury. Yet, we respect his decision to leave Desso and wish him all the best for his future career. We are very pleased that as of today Desso will be part of Tarkett, and we warmly welcome all employees."*

**END OF PRESS RELEASE**

### **About Desso**

Desso is a leading global carpets and sport pitches company, active in more than 100 countries. Desso products are supplied to corporate offices, education, healthcare, government, homes and also hotels, cruise liners and airlines. It also produces world leading sports surfaces such as the DESSO GrassMaster®, which has been installed at the home grounds of Champions League sides and at the football 'temple' Wembley. Today, most people spend on average 90% of their time indoors which has led to the company's vision: 'How to make the floor work for our health and wellbeing'. Our mission is to ensure that we develop unique products that deliver a much improved indoor environment that maximizes people's health and wellbeing and ultimately their performance. This is driven by our innovation programme based on the three pillars of Creativity, Functionality and Cradle to Cradle® design. For more information please visit: [www.desso.com](http://www.desso.com)

### **About Tarkett**

Tarkett is a global leader in innovative and sustainable solutions for flooring and sports surfaces. With a wide range of products including vinyl, linoleum, carpet, rubber, wood & laminate, synthetic turf and athletic tracks, the Group serves customers in more than 100 countries worldwide. With 12,000 employees and 34 production sites, Tarkett sells 1.3 million square meters of flooring every day, for hospitals, schools, housing, hotels, offices, stores and sports fields. Committed to sustainable development, the Group has implemented an eco-innovation strategy and promotes circular economy. Tarkett net sales of 2.5 billion euros in 2013 are balanced between Europe, North America and new economies. Tarkett is listed on Euronext Paris (compartment A, ticker TKTT, ISIN: FR0004188670) and is included in the following indices: SBF 120, CAC Mid 60, CAC Mid & Small, CAC All-Tradable [www.tarkett.com](http://www.tarkett.com).

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