



PUBLICIS GROUPE S.A.

PRESS RELEASE

Closing Nears for Publicis Acquisition of Bcom3

Paris, 22 May 2002 – Administrative formalities should be completed soon to allow Publicis to close its acquisition of Bcom3 announced on March 7 of this year.

- The US Bureau of Competition last week approved the transaction pursuant to the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act.
- The *Note d'opération* describing the transaction has been registered by the COB in France and should be available later this week in electronic format on the Publicis site, www.finance.publicis.com, and in a printed version available on request.
- Forms 20-F and F-4 describing the transaction and parties involved have been submitted to the US Securities and Exchange Commission for examination.
- Documents for the EU Competition Commission have been submitted to authorities in Brussels.

The Extraordinary General Meeting of Publicis to examine the transaction will be held on Tuesday, 18 June 2002.

Considering the time necessary for the SEC to examine filings, the date of the General Meeting of Bcom3 shareholders cannot yet be set precisely, but it should be held by the first half of August at the latest. The transaction will close immediately after its approval by shareholders. At this time, we do not foresee any particular difficulties.

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