



19th October 2006

Tragus
Appointment of Non Executive Chairman and Financial Adviser

Tragus Limited (“Tragus”), one of the leading casual dining groups in the UK, announces the appointment of Giles Thorley as Non Executive Group Chairman. Giles has extensive experience across the leisure industry and has worked with a number of leading brands.

Giles has been chief executive of Punch Taverns since January 2003 and was a senior member of Nomura’s Principal Finance Group where he was involved in a number of acquisitions including the creation of the Unique Pub Company.

In addition, Tragus, working with its independent adviser Close Brothers, has appointed Citigroup to review the company’s strategic options although no specific timetable has been set.

Graham Turner, Tragus Chief Executive, said: “Today’s announcement marks an important moment in time for Tragus. We look forward to reviewing the next step of our growth and development with our advisers and are also delighted to have Giles on board. His considerable experience across many areas of the leisure sector along with his extensive corporate development experience will provide us with unrivalled expertise and counsel.”

Giles Thorley said: “I have watched the development of Tragus with interest and am delighted to be joining the Group as it expands further. The success of the core Café Rouge and Bella Italia brands and the recent launch of Ortega mean I am joining at a very exciting time – with plenty of further opportunity ahead.”

Giles Thorley is also currently a non-executive director of First Choice Holidays and Esporta.

For further information

Tragus	Graham Turner	020 7121 3232
Brunswick	Fiona Antcliffe/Laura Cummings	020 7404 5959
Citigroup	Anthony Gutman	020 7986 4000

Notes to Editors

Giles Thorley Biography

Giles Thorley, 39, was appointed Chief Executive of Punch in January 2003, having joined Punch as Executive Chairman in December 2001. After qualifying as a Barrister, his early career was at Nomura International plc where he was a senior member of the Principal Finance Group, responsible for the financing and structuring of a number of significant corporate acquisitions. In 1998, Giles created the Unique Pub Company from the acquisition of the Inntrepreneur Pub Company and Spring Inns and ran it until moving to his current role at Punch. In May 2002, he successfully led the IPO of Punch, and has seen the business grow through a number of subsequent acquisitions, notably that of Pubmaster, Innspired, and most recently, Spirit.

Tragus

Tragus is one of the largest mid-market restaurant chain operators in the UK, with over 160 sites across the country serving over 12 million meals every year. Tragus operates primarily under the Café Rouge and Bella Italia formats in the UK.

Café Rouge (86), www.caferouge.co.uk

Café Rouge is the UK's only established national French restaurant brand, with sites designed to provide the look and feel of a classic Parisian bistro and a menu that includes steak frites, moules and tarte tatin. Café Rouge is predominantly a high street brand but it also operates successfully within a concessionary environment, for example it has an award-winning Heathrow airport site.

Bella Italia (68), www.bellaitalia.co.uk

Bella Italia is an all-day Italian trattoria with a rustic ambience. Its sites are in prime locations predominantly on the high street but it also operates from leisure park sites. In addition to classic pizzas and pasta its broad menu also includes a range of grill and other protein-based dishes and salads.

Ortega (3), www.ortegatapas.co.uk

Tragus announced the launch of its Spanish tapas bar cantina brand in April 2006 which will provide a complimentary offering to the Group's existing brands, Café Rouge and Bella Italia. The Spanish tapas style of dining is a sector of the UK casual dining market that Tragus believes has significant growth potential.

Brasseries (4)

Tragus also operates 4 brasseries under the brands Amalfi, Oriel and Abbaye.