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## P R E S S R E L E A S E 13 July 2012

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# Arcus-Gruppen acquires Aalborg and other Nordic spirits brands

**Arcus-Gruppen has signed an agreement to acquire the brands Aalborg, Brøndums, Gammel Dansk and Malteser from Pernod Ricard. The purchase price (enterprise value) amounts to EUR 103m. The acquisition is subject to approval from the relevant authorities.**

Arcus-Gruppen is Norway's leading spirits company and the largest wine supplier in the Nordic region through Vingruppen, Vinordia, Excellars and Arcus Wine Brands. The group's brands include Braastad Cognac, Linie Aquavit, Løiten and Vikingfjord Vodka. Production and bottling take place in Gjelleråsen, just outside Oslo, and the company has 470 employees. Arcus-Gruppen's sales in 2011 totalled NOK 1,789m and operating profit (EBITA) amounted to NOK 126m.

Ratos's CEO, Susanna Campbell, comments: "Arcus-Gruppen has achieved strong growth in the wine segment in Sweden and Norway in recent years and is today the largest wine supplier in the Nordic region. We are now taking the next step and strengthening the portfolio of spirits brands as well. This is a strategically significant acquisition which will considerably increase Arcus-Gruppen's size and market presence within the spirits segment."

The acquired operations comprise the brands Aalborg, Brøndums, Gammel Dansk and Malteser as well as a production facility in Aalborg, Denmark. The acquired brands will increase Arcus-Gruppen's sales in the spirits segment with around 50% and increases operating profit significantly.

Arcus-Gruppen's CEO, Otto Drakenberg, comments: "Arcus-Gruppen's strategy is to build strong local Nordic brands and make Nordic aquavit even more attractive in international markets. We have a long tradition of doing this successfully in Norway and Sweden. Therefore, we are delighted to be able to increase our presence in Denmark and Germany by adding strong and renowned brands such as Aalborg and Gammel Dansk to our portfolio."

The purchase price (enterprise value) amounts to EUR 103m and will be mostly financed through a loan in Arcus-Gruppen. Ratos will provide equity in a maximum amount of EUR 9m (approximately SEK 80m). Ratos's holding in Arcus-Gruppen amounts to 83%. The acquisition is subject to approval from the relevant authorities and is expected to be completed no later than in the beginning of January 2013.

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Financial calendar from Ratos:

Interim report January – June 2012

17 August 2012

Interim report January – September 2012

9 November 2012

*Ratos is a private equity conglomerate. The company's mission is to maximise shareholder value over time through the professional, active and responsible exercise of its ownership role in primarily medium to large unlisted Nordic companies. Ratos's holdings include AH Industries, Arcus-Gruppen, Biolin Scientific, Bisnode, Contex, DIAB, Euromaint, Finnino, GS-Hydro, Hafa Bathroom Group, HL Display, Inwido, Jøtul, KVD Kvarndammen, Lindab, Mobile Climate Control, SB Seating and Stofa. Ratos is listed on Nasdaq OMX Stockholm and market capitalisation amounts to approximately SEK 21 billion.*