

## TESSENDERLO GROUP: INAUGURATION OF FISH COLLAGEN PEPTIDES PLANT IN HAINAN, P.R. CHINA

On Saturday, March 18, 2023, Tessenderlo Group's business unit PB Leiner (Bio-valorization segment) held an inauguration ceremony to mark the start of PB Leiner (Hainan) Biotechnology Ltd. In November 2022, PB Leiner entered into a joint venture (80% owned by Tessenderlo Group) with Hainan Xiangtai Group for the production and sale of fish collagen peptides based on PB Leiner's technology. The new venture enables PB Leiner, a world-leading gelatin and collagen solutions manufacturer, to produce and commercialize a robust premium SOLUGEL® fish collagen peptides product range, tapping into the worldwide increasing demand for qualitative marine collagen peptides. The joint venture employs approximately 70 people, and the first commercial shipments are expected in the second quarter of 2023.



From left to right: Rong Jie Liu (Chairman Hainan Xiangtai Group), Wim Poot (EVP PB Leiner), Eva Verstraelen (Economic Representative FIT in Guangzhou), Luc Tack (CEO Tessenderlo Group), Luc Truyens (Consul-General of Belgium in Guangzhou), Henry Ye (General Manager Asia PB Leiner), Angelina Liu (Board member PB Leiner (Hainan) Biotechnology) and Roel Van Bouwel (VP HR PB Leiner).

*“The marine collagen market is a growing market we have long been looking to enter, and we are happy to now make a flying start with a partner as capable and robust as Hainan Xiangtai Group. Over the past few years, it has built up a vertically integrated fish processing chain, from hatchery and fish farming activities to fish processing and collagen manufacturing. Being able to bring our collagen manufacturing excellence and commercial network to the table means that together we are reaching the entire value chain: from local fishermen to our own customers. In addition, this reliable access to prime raw materials will enable us to maintain an attractive pipeline of high-quality marine collagen peptide products,”* explained Wim Poot, Executive Vice President of PB Leiner.

Mr. Liu, Chairman of Hainan Xiangtai Group, commented: *“As a company, we strive to make efficient use of Hainan island’s high-quality water and soil resources, developing our aquaculture with the utmost attention to quality, traceability, and ecological standards. This collaboration with PB Leiner will allow us to grow in the entire value chain. Together with PB Leiner, we will be investing to build a competitive and sustainable collagen peptide business.”*

**About Hainan Xiangtai Group**

*Hainan Xiangtai Fishery Co.Ltd., established in 2004, is a Chinese national agricultural industrialization enterprise, and a key leader in integrating hatchery, ecological breeding, feed production, aquatic product processing, food testing and aquatic product research, warehousing and logistics, biotechnology, and sales.*

**About PB Leiner**

*PB Leiner is an established global player with production sites in Asia, Europe, and North and South America. PB Leiner supplies a complete range of high-quality gelatins and collagen peptides, tailoring solutions to its customers’ applications in food, health, beauty and pharma markets. PB Leiner employs approximately 1,200 people and is part of Tessenderlo Group. SOLUGEL® collagen peptides, one of PB Leiner’s product brands, can provide support for healthy joints, skin health, healthy ageing, etc. It is applied in a wide range of foods, beverages, and supplements. Obtained from natural animal sources, it is a highly digestible pure protein that is perfectly soluble and neutral in taste and flavor.*

**About Tessenderlo Group**

*Tessenderlo Group is an industrial group that focuses on agriculture, valorizing bio-residuals, machinery, mechanical engineering, electronics, energy, and providing industrial solutions with a focus on water. With its headquarters in Belgium, the group is active in over 100 countries and it has a global team of more than 7,000 employees. Its belief that “Every Molecule Counts” is at the heart of the strategy of the group: Tessenderlo Group continually strives to valorize its products and processes to the maximum and to add value to everything it does. In 2021, Tessenderlo Group recorded a consolidated revenue of 2.1 billion EUR, or a pro forma revenue (including Picanol Group) of 2.7 billion EUR. Tessenderlo Group is listed on Euronext Brussels and is part of the Next 150 and BEL Mid indices. Financial News wires: Bloomberg: TESB BB – Reuters: TESB.BR – Datastream: B:Tes. For more information about Tessenderlo Group, its people, its brands, and its results, please visit [www.tessenderlo.com](http://www.tessenderlo.com).*

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