

NOVEMBER 20, 2018

Paradies Lagardère Closes Acquisition of Leading Airport Restaurateur Hojeij Branded Foods

ATLANTA – Paradies Lagardère announced today it has closed the acquisition of Hojeij Branded Foods (HBF), a leading airport restaurateur in North America. Aligning with Paradies Lagardère’s goal to strengthen its position as a premier airport food and beverage operator, this acquisition will create the third-largest operator in the North American airport travel retail and restaurant industry with total annual sales exceeding \$1.2 billion.

The two organizations’ existing food and beverage operations will be combined to create the new Dining Division of Paradies Lagardère. The division will offer unique restaurant experiences in 42 airports and approximately 100 brand partners and proprietary concepts ranging from full service to fast casual to quick serve. The combined brand portfolio offers airport partners and the traveling consumer a vast and attractive array of concepts, including Vino Volo, Chick-fil-A, P.F. Chang’s, Pei Wei, Bar Symon by Chef Michael Symon, illy Caffè, Longhorn Steakhouse, and Cat Cora. The new operation will surpass \$350 million annually in food and beverage sales.

The integration of the two food and beverage operations will begin immediately with Regynald Washington leading the new Dining Division of Paradies Lagardère.

Further details can be found in the [previous press release](#).

About Hojeij Branded Foods (HBF)

Founded in 1996, HBF is one of the leading airport restaurant operators in North America. Headquartered in Atlanta, it operates more than 124 bars and restaurants in 38 airports across the U.S. and Canada.

In 2017, HBF generated total sales of \$225 million (USD) and benefit from a sound portfolio of awarded contracts. Its strong development over the past few years is attributable to its recognized operational excellence, the award of new concessions, and the successful acquisition in 2017 of Vino Volo, the largest airport wine bar and wine retail brand in the U.S. and Canada.

About Paradies Lagardère, a division of Lagardère Travel Retail

Paradies Lagardère, the travel retail and restaurateur leader in North America, operates more than 850 stores and restaurants in 90 airports. The company specializes in three airport concessions areas: Travel Essentials, Specialty Retail and Food and Beverage, and has expertise in international, national and local brands. Paradies Lagardère’s commitment to exceptional customer service, superior design and award-winning store and restaurant operations and management has earned the company numerous accolades from the travel industry, including being named Best Airport Retailer for 23 consecutive years by *Airport Experience News* magazine (formerly *Airport Revenue News* magazine). Paradies Lagardère’s headquarters is in Atlanta, Ga., with an office in Toronto, Ontario. For more information, visit www.paradieslagardere.com.

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