



Press Release

Strengthening the financial structure of the group

EROSKI REINFORCES ITS BUSINESS IN CATALONIA AND THE BALEARIC ISLANDS WITH THE ENTRY OF THE EP CORPORATE GROUP INTO A 50/50 PARTNERSHIP

- EP Corporate Group (Czech Republic) becomes EROSKI's new financial partner
- This agreement will make it possible to relaunch investments and activity under the CAPRABO trademark in Catalonia and under the EROSKI trademark in the Balearic Islands
- With this agreement EROSKI takes the final step aimed at debt normalization

Elorrio, 29 March 2021.- [EROSKI](#) has entered into an agreement with the investment holding company EP Corporate Group for them to become equal partners in the company SUPRATUC 2020, which comprises the businesses in Catalonia and the Balearic Islands. This way, EROSKI has completed the process to find a financial partner that started at the end of 2019 in order to strengthen the financial structure of the group and their positioning in both regions.

The operation will enable EROSKI to improve their financial position and fulfil the debt repayment commitment made by the end of this year, at a higher amount than that committed with financial institutions, and will give a boost to the relaunch of investments and activity in Catalonia under the CAPRABO trademark and in the Balearic Islands under the EROSKI trademark. The full effect of the operation is subject to some conditions precedent, such as certain regulatory and contractual authorizations.

EROSKI's Chairman, Agustín Markaide, has a very positive view of the operation, as it places EROSKI where they planned it to be. *"There is no doubt that, with the agreement concluded today, we are completing this process with higher capacities. To start with, because it allows us to strengthen our resources and increase our investment capacity, as well as comply with our debt repayment commitments, as we have been doing so far. Moreover, it gives us an incentive, due to EP Corporate Group's trust on our project for the future, since this agreement starts with a management and development plan, accepted by both parties, which will enable the consolidation of our markets, the reinforcement of our commercial position and its*

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profitability. The driving capacity our business has proved to have, even at the international level, during the partner seeking process, confirms that our activity and plans for the future are on the right track”, Markaide said.

EP Corporate Group is the investment holding company of Daniel Křetínský and his managerial team, with annual revenues above 10 thousand million Euros in energy, infrastructure and media. Daniel Křetínský, together with his Slovakian partner Patrik Tkáč, is one of the major investors in the food retail sector in Europe, with shareholdings in Metro, Casino Guichard Perrachon and the British company Sainsbury's. *"This transaction means an important step for the EP Corporate Group. We are thrilled to accompany EROSKI in their business in Catalonia and the Balearic Islands, where strong brands with a very attractive potential operate. We appreciate their organization and fully support their expansion plans in these markets. We hope to contribute to promote their development with our experience and resources”, EP Global Commerce’s CEO, Marco Arcelli, stated.*

Throughout its more than 50 years of history, EROSKI has had experiences in the joint development of the business together with a partner. This is the case of their current activity in Galicia, through their subsidiary Vegalsa-EROSKI, also with a 50% ownership stake each.

For this operation EROSKI has been advised by PwC Corporate Finance, Banco Santander and Deloitte Legal. EPCG has been advised by EY.

CAPRABO

The subsidiary of the EROSKI group in Catalonia, CAPRABO, is the oldest supermarket company in Spain and joined the EROSKI group in 2007. Initially present in Catalonia, Madrid, the Balearic Islands and Navarre, the CAPRABO network outside Catalonia, which represented almost half (44%) of their points of sale, joined the EROSKI network or was divested in various operations. At present it has a commercial network of 213 supermarkets of their own, 80 franchises and a petrol station all over the Catalonian territory and Andorra, and more than 5,700 employees.

EROSKI BALEARES

The Balearic Islands are one of the EROSKI’s strategic regions, with a commercial network of 107 supermarkets of their own and 72 franchises, a team of almost 2,500 people and a community of 377,432 customer members.

EROSKI Group

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EROSKI is the first distribution group of the cooperative type in Spain and a leading operator in the regions of Galicia, Basque Country, Navarre, Catalonia and the Balearic Islands. Their commercial network comprises 1,624 stores, including supermarkets, hypermarkets and cash&carry; as well as petrol stations, optical shops, travel agencies and sports shops and its online supermarket. It also has more than 6 million customer members and over 33,000 cooperative members, workers and franchisees.

EP Corporate Group

EP Corporate Group (EPCG) has recently been established as a new holding company that will bring together all the strategic shareholdings of Daniel Křetínský and his managerial team, including EPH (energy & infrastructure), EPGC (wholesale and cash&carry), CMI (media), ECI (e-commerce), EPRE (real estate). The EP Corporate Group has its headquarters in Prague, Czech Republic.

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