

Paris, 10 November 2010

The Elior Group completes its first broad-based programme for Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL)

The Elior Group – the third largest player in the European contracted foodservice and related services market – has completed its first broad-based programme for Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) in France, with some forty employees receiving a Professional Qualification Certificate. Piloted in early 2009, this APEL programme is the first of its kind to be launched by a Contract Catering company. Its aim is two-fold: to guarantee the employment prospects of the staff concerned and to reward their contribution to the Group.

Introduced in France by the Labour Modernisation Act of 17 January 2002, the APEL system is a right under French employment law which enables employees of all ages, qualification levels and categories to receive a diploma or other form of professional qualification based on their on-the-job experience.

The target group for this first broad-based programme was made up of representatives from four key professions from the Group's Contract Catering and Concession Catering businesses – Managing Chefs, Technical Catering Employees, Qualified Catering Employees and Operations Assistants. Following an initial meeting, the candidates prepared an application file which was presented to a jury who reviewed and assessed their professional skills. Subsequently, at a ceremony that took place on 9 November 2010, 39 employees saw their work experience accredited when they received a Professional Qualification Certificate, which is a widely-recognised diploma in the contracted foodservices industry.

According to Agnès Bureau Mirat, the Elior Group's Human Resources Director, APEL is also a powerful management resource – *"APEL is an important tool for professional training and certification as well as for recognising and rewarding our people. It provides a framework for acknowledging the contribution of our teams to the Group's development and helping them forge a long-term career path. It also recognises the major role of our managers, who nominate the candidates and partner them in the important process of becoming aware of and developing skill-sets acquired through experience"*.

About Elior

Founded in 1991, Elior ranks third in the European contracted foodservice and related services market, holding leading positions in Contract Catering & Facilities Management and Concession Catering & Travel Retail. In 2008/2009, the Group generated revenue of €3.56 billion. Each day, Elior's 69,000 employees serve 2.9 million guests at 14,500 restaurants and outlets in 15 countries. Elior is active in the Business & Industry, Education, and Healthcare & Seniors sectors, as well as in travel (airports, railway stations and motorways), and leisure & culture (museums and exhibition centres). As a socially responsible enterprise, Elior signed up to the United Nations Global Compact in 2004. The Group takes special care to provide nutritionally balanced meals to guests, limit the environmental impact of its operations and purchases, and support employee integration and training. For more information please visit www.elior.com.

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