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## MASCO GROUP JOINS FORCES WITH BELGIAN ENGINEERING FIRM XILS BV

The **Masco Group**, a global provider of technological solutions for the pharmaceutical and biotech industries, is strengthening its engineered solutions for life science manufacturing by acquiring a majority stake in Belgian engineering experts XILS BV.

The Milan, Italy-based, Masco Group says the move is in line with its strategy of expanding services and solutions for life-science applications.

“We are extremely happy to partner with XILS, as it will expand our capabilities in the biotech industry, engineering services and EPC product offerings,” says **Luca Borella**, CEO of Masco Group. “We look forward to working with the XILS as innovative front-end engineering firm and regional engineering, procurement and contracting (EPC) provider for the advanced life sciences therapies and cellular agriculture segments, especially in Northern Europe.”



**XILS** is a market leader in designing manufacturing solutions for vaccines, cell and gene therapy applications, and cellular agriculture products, via its subsidiary **VILS**. The company’s engineering design services have been strengthened by a contracting subsidiary **BILS** that delivers customized, turnkey EPC solutions to their clientele of R&D, Lab, C(D)MO and large pharma companies for a variety of biotech applications. Borella says that the benefits of the partnership will include stronger value propositions for global supply chain challenges Masco’s clients face. Such, especially for biopharma and advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs).

Existing shareholders will stay in their management and expert consultant roles to support a long-term commitment to growth. “The XILS management and teams are fully committed to this partnership with Masco Group,” says **Ief Leroy**, Managing Director and Board Member of XILS BV.

“Masco’s global presence and network enables XILS to continue our expansion strategy to serve existing and new clients through providing excellence in Process Design, Development & Delivery,” he adds. “This will elevate our international customers in life sciences in the best possible way, focusing on the essentials. We see XILS and Masco Group as a perfect fit also because both companies share similar values, notably the commitment to teamwork, innovation and customer care.”



The Masco Group is part of **RSBG SE**, a Germany-based long-term industrial partner for successful medium-sized companies that focuses on key competences involved in global transformations.

“This acquisition supports our vision of becoming a leading turnkey provider of engineered solutions to address key challenges in the life science industry such as manufacturing flexibility and scale up, Annex 1 regulatory changes, biotech facility and process design, digital industry 4.0 transformation and fast-track modular manufacturing solutions,” comments **Frans K. A. Maas**, Masco Group Board Member.



## About the Masco Group

The Masco Group helps life science companies master the manufacturing process and stay ahead of industry challenges. We're a global multicompetent company with strong individual technologies and end-to-end solutions for ultra-pure water, upstream drug substance and drug product processing, automation, compliance & validation consulting, and off-site fabricated autonomous manufacturing modules. Thanks to the expert technology brands Stilmas, Olsa, BCD, KeyPlants, DOC, and MG Automation, Masco Group generates smart integrated solutions with expertise in engineering, design, consulting, manufacturing, and after-sales services. Headquartered in Milan, Italy, the Masco Group has a global operational infrastructure and commercial networks, serving more than 6,000 clients globally and delivering around 300 projects per year, with over 1,000 dedicated professionals in three continents.

For more information: [www.mascogroup.com](http://www.mascogroup.com)

## About XILS BV

XILS BV is active in Life Sciences investment projects with services for process engineering, facility design, laboratory & compliance and CSV, among others. It has developed as a thought-leading and innovative partner for cell and gene therapy applications and in the cellular agriculture sector. Active in these niche markets since 2014 under the brands VILS and BILS, XILS executes projects with their clients throughout Western Europe. Based in Mechelen, Belgium, it has recently added branches in the Netherlands and Switzerland.

For more information: [www.vils.be](http://www.vils.be)

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