

**PRESS RELEASE**

Paris, 29 July 2008

## **SIGNING OF A NEW COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN LA POSTE GROUP AND JAPAN POST SERVICE CO. LTD**

**Jean-Paul Bailly, Chairman of La Poste group, and Norio Kimatura, Chairman and CEO of Japan Post Service signed a new cooperation agreement for a period of three years on the 29th of July 2008, in Paris.**

The agreement concerns the B2B parcel sector between Japan and Europe, the putting into place of distribution solutions and the implementation of a development plan for express mail.

It also deals with the sharing of information and joint research to be conducted in support of sustainable development. Finally, the agreement provides for regular discussion regarding the main issues of the Universal Postal Union (changes in regulations, etc.).

The different elements of the agreement will be implemented on the basis of mutual cooperation, though the drawing up of an annual plan under the responsibility of the monitoring committee.

This agreement aims to assist in giving concrete form to operational projects, such as:

- the initialisation and development of B2B parcel activities and the distribution agreement between Japan and Europe, through the subsidiary networks of the two operators,
- the drawing up and implementation of a development plan concerning the Express mail service between Japan and France,
- the exchange of information and sharing of experiences regarding measures contributing to sustainable development, such as the introduction of a fleet of electric vehicles and the reduction of energy consumption in buildings.

Following the agreements of 2000 and 2003, this is the third cooperation agreement signed between the French and Japanese post offices. The agreement testifies to their close ties and the prospect of new opportunities for the two top-ranking postal operators.

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