

**Galactic appoints Laurent Guérindon as new CEO
Leadership transition to strengthen company's focus on innovation,
sustainability, and growth**

Brussels (Belgium), April 2025 – Galactic, a world leader in antimicrobials, lactic acid and its derivatives, announces the appointment of Laurent Guérindon as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective 1 April 2025. He succeeds Frédéric van Gansberghe, the company's founder, who will remain Chairman of the Board. This change of leadership marks a new chapter for Galactic, strengthening its focus on innovation, market expansion and sustainable solutions in the food ingredients and green chemistry sectors.

Under Frédéric van Gansberghe's leadership, Galactic has grown from a small Brussels-based lab into a pioneer in fermentation-based food ingredients and antimicrobials. Over the years, the company has introduced various lactates, antimicrobials, and clean label ingredients, continuously evolving to meet industry demands. In 2024, Galactic rebranded to reflect its shift from lactic acid production to a broader portfolio of fermentation-based antimicrobial solutions, including flavours, fermented flour, infused vinegars, nisin and natamycin. At the same time, Futero, a sister company, was spun off to focus on green chemistry and bioplastics, allowing Galactic to strengthen its core business in food applications.

To enable a smooth transition and further build on its strong foundations, Galactic initiated a long-term leadership succession plan. As part of this process, Laurent Guérindon has already been involved with the company, facilitating a seamless handover of business operations. "Galactic will continue to invest in innovation to strengthen its leadership role in natural food preservation solutions produced in a sustainable way," says Guérindon. "I see fermentation as a key enabler for functional clean label solutions. With our existing portfolio and planned innovations, Galactic's product range will have a significant impact on the future of food production."

Technical knowledge and leadership experience

With more than 23 years of experience in the food ingredients industry, Guérindon has held senior leadership positions in medium and large companies, both in Europe and internationally, specializing in market development, sales and business strategy. As a chemical engineer with an MBA, he combines technical knowledge with strong commercial expertise. His leadership will support Galactic's plans to expand into high-growth food categories and reinforce its position as a global provider of natural and sustainable food preservation solutions.

Frédéric van Gansberghe's future within Galactic

While stepping down from daily operations, Frédéric van Gansberghe will remain actively involved as Chairman of the Board, providing strategic oversight and supporting the company's research and development initiatives.

"One of my greatest achievements was starting from nothing and building a company that leads in innovation," says van Gansberghe. "Our DNA has always been about leading the way in fermentation-based solutions. I am confident that under Laurent's leadership, Galactic will continue to prosper."

Laurent Guérindon continues: "Galactic has an incredible legacy, and, with our dynamic team, we will build on it to reach new heights. My goal is to continue the path we have already embarked upon and to pursue growth and expansion into new markets."

About Galactic:

Galactic, established in 1994, is a global leader in fermentation technology, specializing in the production of lactic acid and its derivatives. With more than 30 years of experience, the company produces a broad range of natural antimicrobials and ingredients for both food and non-food industries. The group operates state-of-the-art production facilities in Europe, Asia and North America, supported by a dynamic team of researchers in Belgium, China and the United States, and offices in Brazil, Mexico and Japan. Committed to innovation, sustainability and quality, Galactic focuses on creating safe, healthy and eco-friendly solutions to meet the evolving demands of consumers and industries worldwide.

For further information, please visit: www.lactic.com

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