



PRESS RELEASE

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Official opening of the 500th Auchan Group hypermarket

On 21 November, the Auchan Group opened its 500th hypermarket in Cracow, Poland. As the first Auchan hypermarket in this urban centre and the 25th in the country, the new store is located in the Bonarka City Center shopping centre to the south of the city, and boasts a retail floor area of 13,500 m². This new store opening has created 500 new jobs.

The Group's 500 hypermarkets¹, 32 of which have been opened this year, are distributed across its 3 operating regions: 253 in Western Europe, 83 in Central & Eastern Europe and 164 in Asia. One of the highlights of this year was the opening of the first Auchan supermarket in Dubai in partnership with the Nakheel Group. Dubai is the Group's 13th operating country.

By the end of 2009, the Group will have some 520 hypermarkets, having opened around 50 new stores during the year. The Group opened 60 hypermarkets in 2008.

ABOUT THE AUCHAN GROUP

The Auchan Group is the world's 12th largest food retailer, operates in 13 countries and employs 210,000 people. The Group is structured into the 4 core businesses of hypermarkets (500 stores), supermarkets (745 stores), retail real estate (Immochan) and banking (Banque Accord).

In 2008, the Group reported pre-tax sales of €39.5 billion, of which 80% was generated by its hypermarket business.

The Group has been operating in Poland since 1996, and has developed all 4 of its core business activities here: 25 Auchan hypermarkets (21 of which are wholly-owned, with the remaining 4 being owned by Schiever Polska, a company owned 50/50 by Auchan and Schiever) and 15 Simply Market and A-tak supermarkets, as well as its real estate (Immochan Pologne) and banking (AccordFinance) subsidiaries.

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¹ [click here](#) to view the location map of all 500 hypermarkets