Press contacts:
Christel Lerouge
Tel.:+33 (0)1 47 54 50 76
E-mail: christel.lerouge@capgemini.com

Elena Frigeri
+44 (0)870 195 1055
E-mail: elena.frigeri@capgemini.com

Dutch Ministry of Agriculture Chooses Capgemini for Outsourcing Office Automation

'Virtual desktop'[1] environment will support greater mobility, flexibility and energy efficiency

Paris, August 25, 2009 – The IT Operations Service (Dienst ICT Uitvoering/DICTU) of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (Ministerie voor Landbouw Natuur Voedselkwaliteit / LNV) has chosen Capgemini Nederland B.V. ("Capgemini"), a subsidiary of the Capgemini Group, one of the world's foremost providers of Consulting, Technology and Outsourcing services, as its partner in an office automation initiative. Capgemini will be responsible for 9,000 workstations belonging to both the core department and the Ministry's operational services, in addition to managing the automation of the central networking and server infrastructure, data storage, fixed telephony, coordination over mobile telephony and distributed print services. Within the contract, worth €50 million over the next five years, Capgemini will manage the implementation to take place over the next two years and the governance of the office automation, which will span the five year period.

The outsourcing of the Ministry of Agriculture's office automation was a European public-procurement tender focused on selecting a company that will create IT workplaces in accordance with market standards and requirements set by the Ministry. Capgemini was selected based on cost efficiency and technology advancements, notably workstations designed to be flexible, future-ready, reliable, customer-oriented and technologically up-to-date.

The core element of the technology Capgemini is offering is a 'virtual desktop', enabling a high degree of mobility and flexibility for the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture's workforce. The 'virtual desktop' environment is delivered from Capgemini's data center, located in Amsterdam, to the most appropriate device, depending on each employee's requirements (e.g. laptop, desktop, PDA or other device). For the

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[1] The *Virtual Desktop* enables the centralization on a single server of organizational, communications and collaborative data. Users can access their data and their personal working environment from a PC, portable PC, PDA, smartphone, etc. equipped with a web browser and an Internet connection.

majority of end-users, Capgemini will deploy Sun Ray clients to replace PCs. This energy-efficient, ultra-thin client hardware developed by technology partner, Sun Microsystems, is used with Sun's Virtual Desktop Infrastructure software and VMware Hypervisor.

"We are very pleased to collaborate closely with the Ministry in implementing a sustainable IT solution that offers a cost reduction over the long term, in addition to promoting innovation and transformation towards a greener alternative," said Peter Croes, Head of Outsourcing Services, Capgemini Nederland B.V.

The workplace concept and the new infrastructure are set to enable the Ministry of Agriculture to further expand the use of Open Source[2] software for the entire department. In accordance with the demands of the tender, Capgemini will provide a blend of Open Source and proprietary software platforms with the implementation of a number of Open Source packages to begin immediately.

 In addition to the technology implementation and management, the agreement includes a transfer of approximately 53 IT employees who are currently responsible for workplace management within the Ministry to Capgemini Outsourcing in the Netherlands.

The new system will first be introduced in the Plant Protection Service, a division of the Ministry of Agriculture. Other divisions will migrate to the new environment once the changeover within the Plant Protection Service is completed.

About Capgemini
Capgemini, one of the world's foremost providers of consulting, technology and outsourcing services, enables its clients to transform and perform through technologies. Capgemini provides its clients with insights and capabilities that boost their freedom to achieve superior results through a unique way of working, the Collaborative Business Experience. The Group relies on its global delivery model called Rightshore®, which aims to get the right balance of the best talent from multiple locations, working as one team to create and deliver the optimum solution for clients. Present in more than 30 countries, Capgemini reported 2008 global revenues of EUR 8.7 billion and employs 90,000 people worldwide.
More information is available at www.capgemini.com.

Capgemini Outsourcing Services (OS) draws on the expertise of more than 25,000 employees to manage, innovate and improve the IT systems and business processes of its clients. Capgemini OS offers a full spectrum of services including Applications Outsourcing, Infrastructure Outsourcing, Business Process Outsourcing and Transformational Outsourcing.
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[2] *Open Source* software allows free access to its source code, which means it can be modified by any user, unlike proprietary software.