



## 2017: €953.8 MILLION IN REVENUE; Q4 UP 3.6% A VERY STRONG BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

2018: REVENUE > €1 BILLION

GL EVENTS (ISIN: FR0000066672 - TICKER: GLO), THE INTEGRATED EVENT INDUSTRY GROUP, REPORTS ITS CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REVENUE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2017.

GL events had consolidated annual revenue of €953.8 million in 2017, remaining steady in relation to 2016 (-1.9% like-for-like\*) though without jumbo events (€130 million in business in 2016 for the Rio Olympic Games, the Euro 2016 and COP 22) and with an adverse currency effect of €12 million.

Olivier Ginon, GL events' Chairman commented:

"I am delighted by the very good business performances achieved by all teams throughout 2017. Group revenue remained in line with the previous year despite the negative base effect linked to the absence of large events.

2018 represents a landmark year for the Group, marking its 40th anniversary and 20 years as a publicly traded company. This double anniversary coincides with an excellent business outlook highlighted by a more extensive calendar than in 2017 and already €35 million in new contracts for international events."

REVENUE (€M)	2017 REPORTED BASIS	2016 REPORTED BASIS	CHANGE 17/16
Q1	283.2	236.2	+19.9%
Q2	212.9	253.8	-16.1%
Q3	193.0	207.6	-7.0%
Q4	264.8	255.5	+3.6%
CONSOLIDATED TOTAL	953.8	953.0	0.1%

<sup>\*:</sup> Like-for-like defined as at constant structure and exchange rates (2017 exchange rates applied to 2016 revenue)

## **SALES BY DIVISION**

REVENUE (€M)	2017 REPORTED BASIS	2016 REPORTED BASIS	CHANGE 17/16
GL EVENTS LIVE	471.9	500.5	-5.7%
GL EVENTS EXHIBITIONS	165.2	144.9	+14.0%
GL EVENTS VENUES	316.7	307.6	+3.0%
CONSOLIDATED TOTAL	953.8	953.0	0.1%

**GL EVENTS LIVE** had revenue of €471.9 million, down 5.7% (-10.2% like-for-like). Despite adverse base and currency effects, this division continued to display strong business momentum reflecting the Group's presence at numerous events.

In the 2017 fourth quarter, GL events Live delivered world-class services for events including the Sommet de L'Élevage, Europe's leading livestock show in Clermont Ferrand, MIPCOM, the world's entertainment content market in Cannes and the African Union - European Union (AU-EU) summit in Abidjan. The creation of the Sports division that includes Equita Lyon, the major equestrian event, and also LOU Rugby generated new growth and as did PCO activity for medical conventions and institutional events in Turkey.

Acquisitions completed in 2017 strengthened operations for the PCO business (the agency CCC in France), the rental of long-term structures for industry (Tarpulin in Chile and Aganto in the UK) and rental of event structures and power units (Wicked & Flow in Dubai).

A more substantial pipeline of events in 2018 with already more than €35 million in new contracts signed by the Live division – Ryder Cup in France, the Commonwealth Games in Australia, the Football World Cup in Russia, the Longines FEI World Cup™ Finals for Jumping & Dressage as well as the European Games in Scotland – may be expected to contribute to growth by this division in 2018.

**GL EVENTS EXHIBITIONS** had revenue of €165.2 million, up 14% (+19.3% like-for-like). In the fourth quarter, the Europack-Euromanut, SIRHA Istanbul and Paysalia/Rocalia trade shows registered significant gains in numbers of exhibitors and visitors, highlighting the teams' marketing skills in developing products adapted to the needs of different industry sectors.

GL events Exhibitions is fully focused on preparing the next gathering for all industrial sectors, Global Industrie (Smart industries, Tolexpo, Midest and Industrie) that will bring together more than 2,700 exhibitors in Paris-Nord Villepinte in March 2018 in a space of more than 100,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

**GL EVENTS VENUES** had revenue of €316.7 million, up 3.0% in relation to 2016 (+2.8% like-for-like) and up 9.3% from 2015, bolstered by continuing growth from destinations like Budapest, Strasbourg, Lyon or São Paulo which, on track with its plan as previously announced, registered an 80% increase in business. In the fourth quarter, Group venues hosted namely the Solutrans international show for road & urban transport solutions in Lyon, Gartner symposium in Barcelona, the Two-Wheeled Vehicles Fair in Sao Paulo and the OI Convention in Riocentro.

As part of its development strategy, GL events recently announced that it was awarded preferred bidder status to manage the future Aichi International Exhibition Centre in Japan scheduled to open in April 2019. Following the signature of the joint venture agreement with Yuexiu Group to manage the convention centre of Guangzhou (Canton), the Group thus reasserts its goals for development in the Asia-Pacific region. Other projects are under study or in negotiations.

## **OUTLOOK**

GL events confirms its target for an improvement in operating profitability at 31 December 2017.

2018 will benefit from measures initiated in 2017 to reinforce the business and geographical portfolio as well as a more favourable calendar of large events. In consequence, the Group confirms its target for continuing growth in business in 2018 that should result in revenue of more than €1 billion.

NEXT PRESS RELEASE:
ANNUAL RESULTS: 21 MARCH 2018 AFTER THE CLOSE OF TRADING

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**About GL events:** The Group is a world-class provider of integrated solutions and services for events operating across the three main market segments: conventions, conferences, congresses; cultural, sports and political events; trade shows / B2B and B2C exhibitions and consumer fairs. GL events' activities are organised into three major business divisions. **GL events Live** offers expertise covering all business line specialisations and services for corporate, institutional and sports events to provide turnkey solutions from consulting and design to staging the event itself. **GL events Exhibitions** manages and coordinates the Group's

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portfolio of more than 300 proprietary trade fairs covering a wide range of sectors: food industry, culture, textiles/fashion, manufacturing... **GL events Venues** manages a network of 40 venues (convention and exhibition centres, concert halls and multi-purpose facilities) in France and international destinations.

Present on five continents with operations in more than 20 countries, GL events has 3,934 employees. GL events is listed on Euronext Paris, Compartment B (mid caps).

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