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## EANS-News: AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG / AGRANA concentrates production of fruit preparations in Austria at Gleisdorf plant

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Subtitle: Kröllendorf (Lower Austria) remains head office of Austria Juice GmbH and the site for fruit juice concentrate production

Strategic management decisions

In response to the continuingly weak development of the market for fruit yoghurts in Europe, AGRANA is now optimising the organisational structure of its fruit preparations division in Austria. At its meeting today, the Supervisory Board of AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG resolved to in future operate the AGRANA site in Gleisdorf (Styria) as its sole Austrian production facility for fruit preparations. The fruit preparations plant in Kröllendorf (Lower Austria), which had been operating at below capacity, will be relocated to the larger fruit preparations facility in Gleisdorf. The intention is to complete the relocation process by the end of the financial year 2014|15.

This move by AGRANA is necessary in order to counter the overcapacity which has arisen in the European fruit preparations market in recent years as a result of which there has been pressure on the margins of all fruit preparations producers.

The aim is to offer some of the 66 personnel employed in the fruit preparations production plant in Kröllendorf jobs at other AGRANA sites - ideally at the fruit juice concentrate facility in Kröllendorf or in the fruit preparations plant at the Gleisdorf site. Management and the Works Council will jointly prepare a severance package for those personnel without the option of a new position. AGRANA is fully aware of its responsibility vis-a-vis employees and therefore attaches great importance to implementing these plans as socially compatibly as possible.

Kröllendorf remains important site for fruit juice concentrates

At the Kröllendorf site and in a joint venture with Raiffeisen Ware Austria AG, AGRANA operates both the production facility as well as the head office of the Fruit Juice division, which operates under the name Austria Juice GmbH. This company is not affected by the changes described above. With its plant in Kröllendorf and a further 13 international production facilities, AGRANA aims to consolidate its role as a leading supplier of fruit juice concentrates, fruit purées, beverage bases, natural flavourings and NFC juices to the down-stream beverages industry.

## About AGRANA

AGRANA adds value to agricultural commodities to produce top quality foodstuffs and numerous industrial upstream products. Around 8,800 personnel working at over 50 production facilities worldwide generate consolidated revenue of around three billion euros. The Company was founded in 1988 and is today the leading sugar company in Central and Eastern Europe as well as being a key producer, in

the Starch segment, of special products and bioethanol in Europe. AGRANA is also the global leader in fruit preparations and one of the largest European producers of fruit juice concentrates.

## Fruit preparations at AGRANA

Fruit preparations contain top quality fruit which is prepared either as a liquid or in pieces in order for these to be used mainly in dairy products but also in the ice cream and bakery industries. These products are individually designed and further developed in cooperation with customers. AGRANA produces fruit preparations at 26 sites worldwide.

This Press Release is available on the AGRANA's website at www.agrana.com.

Further inquiry note: AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG

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