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**NEWS – For Immediate Release
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THE EUROPEAN COFFEE GROUP RECEIVES FUNDING

Wilmington, DE—Gates and Company is pleased to announce that its client – **The European Coffee Group** of Naarden, The Netherlands, and Sparta, New Jersey – received bridge financing from Rockland Credit Finance, LLC to support international inventory and receivables. The amount and terms of the financing were not disclosed.

The European Coffee Group specializes in the distribution of high quality Specialty Coffees, with an emphasis on Certified Specialty Coffees from around the world. The Group has its own processing facilities in Indonesia and specializes in the highest qualities of both Certified Arabicas, as well as Certified Robustas.

Gates and Company served as an advisor to The European Coffee Group helped negotiate the deals. Additional terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release includes statements that are not historical in nature and that may be characterized as "forward-looking statements," including those related to future financial and operating results, benefits and synergies of the company's brands and strategies, future opportunities, and the growth of the market. Actual results could differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements, which are based on current expectations of management and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to: the company's ability to integrate acquired operations and employees; success in executing strategies; ability to take a competitive position in the industry; business conditions and the general economy; market opportunities; potential new business strategies; competitive factors; sales and marketing execution; shifts in technologies or market demand; and other factors. The above-named companies and their funding sources disclaim any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of developments occurring after the date of this press release.

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN COFFEE GROUP

Based in The Netherlands with U.S. offices in Sparta, New Jersey, The European Coffee Group specializes in the distribution of high quality Specialty Coffees, with an emphasis on Certified Specialty Coffees from around the world. The Group has its own processing facilities in Indonesia and specializes in the highest qualities of both Certified Arabicas, as well as Certified Robustas. For more information, visit www.europeancoffee.nl

ABOUT GATES AND COMPANY

Gates and Company is a management consulting and investment banking firm dedicated to helping companies grow. With an impressive track record of helping numerous companies reach their goals, *Gates and Company* specializes in growth strategy formulation, investment banking, market research/analysis, business plan development, product/venture launch, routes to market, and M&A. For more information about Gates and Company and additional clients successes, visit www.gatesandcompany.com.

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