



## C O M M U N I Q U É

### DOREL JUVENILE GROUP, N.A.

Cosco

Safety 1<sup>st</sup>

### DOREL JUVENILE GROUP, Europe

Maxi Cosi

BébéConfort

### HOME FURNISHINGS

Ameriwood

Ridgewood

Dorel Home Products

Cosco

Dorel Asia

### EXCHANGES

#### CANADA:

Toronto  
Stock Exchange:  
DII.A, DII.B

#### U.S.A.:

NASDAQ:  
DIIBF

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## DOREL CONCLUDES AMPA FRANCE ACQUISITION

**Montreal, February 18, 2003**—Dorel Industries Inc. (TSX: DII.A; DII.B; NASDAQ: DIIBF) announced that it has concluded its previously announced acquisition of European juvenile products manufacturer Ampa Group of Cholet, France. The total acquisition cost was \$US 240 million and as previously disclosed, the acquisition is expected to add in the range of \$US 0.15 to \$US 0.20 per share to Dorel's earnings in the current fiscal year.

Ampa is known in Europe through its major brands: Bébé Confort, Babidéal, MonBébé and Baby Relax. The Company's brands are extremely well-recognized and have gained wide acceptance from consumers for their high quality, broad and innovative product lines that incorporate state-of-the-art features and up-to-date fashion. The Ampa Group or Bébé Confort is a leading force in the French market with long-established distribution channels through independent retailers and mass merchants. Products, in all price categories, include prams, strollers, car seats, high chairs, beds, play yards, safety aids, apparel as well as feeding accessories.

### Profile

Dorel Industries Inc. is a global manufacturer of consumer products. It specializes in two market segments: juvenile products and home furnishings. Dorel's extensive product offering includes juvenile products such as infant car seats, strollers, high chairs, toddler beds, cribs, infant health and safety aids, play-yards and juvenile accessories; home furnishings such as a wide variety of Ready-to-Assemble (RTA) furniture for home and office use as well as metal folding furniture, futons, step stools, ladders and other imported furniture items.

Dorel employs approximately 4,500 people in fourteen countries. Major North American facilities are located in Montreal, Quebec; Cornwall, Ontario; Columbus, Indiana; Wright City, Missouri; Tiffin, Ohio; Dowagiac, Michigan; and Canton, Massachusetts. The Company's major divisions in the United States include Ameriwood Industries and the Dorel Juvenile Group (DJG USA), which incorporates the Cosco and Safety 1<sup>st</sup> brand names. In Canada, Dorel operates Ridgewood Industries and Dorel Home Products. European operations are carried out through the Dorel Juvenile Group (DJG Europe) located in Holland and the Ampa Group which has major facilities in France, Italy and Portugal. Brand names marketed in Europe are Maxi-Cosi, Bébé Confort, Quinny, Safety 1<sup>st</sup>, Babidéal, MonBébé and Baby Relax. Dorel's international sourcing operations are carried out through Dorel Asia.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

Except for historical information provided herein, this press release may contain information and statements of a forward -looking nature concerning the future performance of the Company. These statements are based on suppositions and uncertainties as well as on management's best possible evaluation of future events. Such factors may include, without excluding other considerations, fluctuations in quarterly results, evolution in customer demand for the Company's products and services, the impact of price pressures exerted by competitors, and general market trends or economic changes. As a result, readers are advised that actual results may differ from expected results.