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UNICE PLEASED BY SEC PROPOSALS ON:

- **IMPLEMENTATION OF SARBANES-OXLEY SECTION 404**
- **DEREGISTRATION OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUERS**

The US SEC has made two important proposals which are positive for European companies listed on a US stock exchange.

The first one concerns the new guidance on application of section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley act which provides that internal controls should be led by the management rather than by auditors.

The second one relates to the new rules on deregistration of listed companies which no longer take as criteria the number of investors but the trading volume.

Both proposals show that the SEC is responsive to the concerns of European business, which we have underlined on many occasions.

Ernest-Antoine Seillière, President of UNICE said: *"This is good news. Both proposals show that the SEC has been adequately responsive to EU businesses, which have had to face very burdensome and costly rules when listed on a US stock exchange."*

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

UNICE – the Confederation of European Business represents more than 20 million small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE's members are 39 central industrial and employers' federations from 33 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

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