



PRESS RELEASE

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Utrecht Court gives decision on proceedings brought by Fortis shareholders

The Utrecht Court has today announced its decision in first instance on the proceedings instituted by certain Fortis shareholders. These shareholders claim to have suffered a loss as a consequence of misleading information allegedly provided by the then Fortis group in the course of 2008.

The Court has decided that Fortis and two co-defendants, the former CEO and the former chief financial officer, did publish misleading information, albeit confined to the period between 22 May and 26 June 2008.

On the other hand, the Court has ruled that it must be decided in separate proceedings whether the shareholders concerned did actually suffer a loss as a consequence and, if so, the amount of this loss.

The claims against the former chairman of the board of directors were dismissed.

The full text of the decision can be viewed on www.rechtspraak.nl.

Ageas regrets this judgement and will lodge an appeal against it with a view to protecting the interests of its stakeholders.

Ageas is an international insurance company with a heritage spanning more than 180 years. Ranked among the top 20 insurance companies in Europe, Ageas has chosen to concentrate its business activities in Europe and Asia, which together make up the largest share of the global insurance market. These are grouped around four segments: Belgium, United Kingdom, Continental Europe and Asia and served through a combination of wholly owned subsidiaries and partnerships with strong financial institutions and key distributors around the world. Ageas operates successful partnerships in Belgium, UK, Luxembourg, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, China, Malaysia, India and Thailand and has subsidiaries in France, Germany, Hong Kong and UK. It is the market leader in Belgium for *individual life* and *employee benefits*, as well as a leading *non-life* player, through AG Insurance, and in the UK, it has a strong presence as the third largest player in private car insurance and the over 50's market. It employs more than 13,000 people and has annual inflows of almost EUR 18 billion.

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