



AIB Capital Markets Arranges First Euro Acquisition Financing

8th January 1999

The BC Partners backed management purchase of Cantrell & Cochrane was completed today for IR£580m (EURO 736m). The Euro 380 million Senior Debt facility for the acquisition was co-arranged and co-underwritten by AIB Capital Markets plc and Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, the U.S. investment bank.

This debt will be the first Euro denominated syndicated acquisition financing in Europe.

Robert Gallagher, Head of the Special Finance Unit at AIB Corporate Banking, said: “We are particularly pleased about this transaction not only for its size but for the fact that an Irish bank is a leader in the first major Euro loan deal. We think that this buyout will position the company well for future development and growth, particularly as BC Partners have an extensive track record internationally in supporting management teams in the acquisition and enhancement of their businesses”.

- Ends -

For further information please contact:

Robert Gallagher Neil Rattenbury

Tel. 641 7970 or 086 234 0400 Tel: 087 234 4538