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## Elior sets up the first Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) pilot system in the French Contracted Foodservice sector

**The Elior Group – the third largest player in the European contracted foodservice and related services market – has recently set up a pilot system for the Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) in France. The aim of this system – which is a first for a French Contracted Foodservice firm – is two-fold: to guarantee the employment prospects of the staff concerned and to reward their contribution to the Group.**

Introduced in France by the Labour Modernisation Act of 17 January 2002, the APEL system enables employees of all ages, qualification levels and categories to receive a diploma or other form of professional qualification based on their on-the-job experience.

The target group for the pioneering system set up by the Elior Group Human Resources Department in early 2009 is made up of Managing Chefs and Operations Assistants. Following an initial meeting, the employees prepared an application file which was presented to a jury who reviewed and assessed the candidates' professional skills. In late June 2009 their work experience was accredited and they received a Professional Qualification Certificate, which is a widely-recognised diploma in the Contract Catering sector.

According to Olivier Cortyl – Head of Training at Elior and responsible for overseeing the project – *"The APEL system is an excellent method for managing human resources and employee skill-sets. It fits seamlessly with the training programmes that we already offer to our employees, guarantees employment prospects and affirms Elior's commitment to playing a key role in training its people"*.

Once the system has been fully tested, the Group expects to roll it out to other Elior employees in France.

### **About Elior**

Founded in 1991, Elior ranks third in the European contracted foodservice and related services market, holding leading positions in Contract Catering & Facilities Management and Concession Catering & Travel Retail. In 2008, the Group generated revenue of €3.46 billion. Each day, Elior's 67,500 employees serve 2.9 million guests at 14,000 restaurants and outlets in 14 countries. Elior is active in the Business & Industry, Education, and Healthcare & Seniors sectors, as well as in travel (airports, railway stations and motorways), and leisure & culture (museums and exhibition centres). As a socially responsible enterprise, Elior signed up to the United Nations Global Compact in 2004.

The Group takes special care to provide nutritionally balanced meals to guests, limit the environmental impact of its operations and purchases, and support employee integration and training. For more information please visit [www.elior.com](http://www.elior.com)

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