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**Press Release**

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**Leclanché SA obtains an increase of its bridge loan**

- **Bruellan to increase its current bridge loan by EUR 1.5m**
- **Loan extension will cover short term needs until the end of June 2013 and allow Leclanché SA additional time to pursue its fund raising efforts**

**Yverdon-les-Bains, Switzerland, 21 May 2013** - Leclanché S.A. (SIX Swiss Exchange: LECN), specialized in the production of large-format lithium-ion cells and energy storage solutions, announced today that Bruellan Corporate Governance Action Fund (“Bruellan”) has agreed to increase the current bridge loan of EUR 5 million granted to Leclanché GmbH by an additional EUR 1.5 million to provide for additional time to the Company to pursue its fund raising efforts. The maturity date of the entire bridge loan is June 30, 2013, or such earlier date as to coincide with a refinancing of the Group.

Leclanché had announced on November 23, 2012 that its German subsidiary, Leclanché GmbH, had obtained a EUR 5 million bridge loan from Bruellan to cover its short term funding needs. The loan is secured with assets of Leclanché GmbH. Upon a capital increase to raise further funds for Leclanché SA the lender has the right to convert the loan into shares of Leclanché SA and receive warrants to purchase shares of Leclanché SA. The additional EUR1.5 million shall, however, not be capable of being converted into shares, but shall be repayable in full on maturity.

This bridge loan increase is expected to allow Leclanché to cover its short term financial needs until the end of June 2013. The Company is currently reviewing a number of funding options but no definitive solution has been secured as yet.

**About Leclanché**

Leclanché’s strategy is to expand its position as one of the leading lithium-ion cell producers and solution providers for renewable energy storage systems in Europe. Its strategic priorities are stationary home electrical energy storage applications and expansion into the stationary industrial and grid electricity storage markets. Through participation in research consortia focusing on hybrid and E-mobility applications, Leclanché is positioned to take advantage of new market opportunities.

Through a unique, patented ceramic separator technology and focus on lithium-titanate technology, Leclanché manufactures large-format lithium-ion cells, optimized for safety and cycle-life, in a fully automated production process. The newly installed production line will have an annual capacity of 1 million cells or 76 MWh.

Leclanché was founded in 1909 in Yverdon-les-Bains. Through the integration of a spin-off from the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft in 2006, the company evolved from a traditional battery manufacturer to become a leading developer and manufacturer of lithium-ion cells in Europe. Leclanché currently employs 120 staff and is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (LECN). The company has its headquarters in Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland) and production facilities in Willstätt (Germany).

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**Disclaimer**

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