

## **X5 RECEIVES CHARITY AWARD**

**Moscow, 20 December 2012.** - X5 Retail Group N.V., (further, "X5" and/or the "Company"), Russia's largest retailer in terms of revenue (LSE ticker symbol: FIVE), has announced today that its two charitable programs – *Crossroads of Life* ("Perekrestok Zhizni") and *Karusel for Children* ("Karusel Detyam") – were named among Russia's best social projects in 2012 run by private companies, not-for-profit organizations and the media.

The National Program "Russia's Best Social Projects" award ceremony was held December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Renaissance Moscow Monarch Center. X5 won the category "Projects supporting disadvantaged social groups".

The National Program "Russia's Best Social Projects" is held by the Russian Ministry of Labor and Social Development, the Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Agency for Strategic Initiatives, the WWF, the FSC and other organizations. The Program's main objective is to attract society's attention to the issue of social responsibility and to encourage and implement best social practices among businesses, society and governmental organizations. The BDO Group was the event's official auditor, and the expert council of the Program included representatives of international companies, such as: Cone Communications, CSR Europe and BSR.

The Crossroads of Life ("Perekrestok Zhizni") and Karusel for Children programs are implemented jointly with the Life Line Charitable Fund that works with severely ill children. X5 installed special boxes to collect cash donations at its Perekrestok and Karusel stores. Collected funds donated by millions of customers are directly transferred to the Fund. In 2012, approximately 100 children with congenital heart disorders will receive highly professional medical assistance within the framework of this program. In 2011, 75 Russian children were cured.

## Mikhail Susov, Corporate Relations Director, commented:

"The recognition of our charitable programs by organizers and experts of the National Program "Russia's Best Social Projects is not just X5's achievement, but more so is thanks to our customers' efforts who cannot look at ill children in a half-hearted manner. We also thank the Life Line Fund, which we have cooperated with for six years, for its proactive and consistent approach in implementing our joint initiatives. We hope this cooperation will be expanded, and that we will be able to help improve the health and make more children happy who need our support."

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## **Note to Editors:**

X5 Retail Group (LSE: FIVE, Moody's - "B2", S&P - "B+") is Russia's largest retailer in terms of sales. The Company operates several retail formats: the soft discounter chain under the Pyaterochka brand, the supermarket chain under the Perekrestok brand, the hypermarket chain under the Karusel brand, the online retail channel under the E5.ru brand and convenience stores under various brands.

At 30 September 2012, X5 had 3,472 Company-operated stores. It has the leading market position in both Moscow and St. Petersburg and a significant presence in the European part of Russia. Its store base includes 2,936 soft discounter stores, 350 supermarkets, 76 hypermarkets and 110 convenience stores. The Company operates 28 DCs and 1,854 Company-owned trucks across the Russian Federation. At 30 September 2012, the number of X5 employees totaled 102 thousand.

For the full year 2011, net sales totaled USD 15,455 mln, EBITDA reached USD 1,130 mln, and net profit amounted to USD 302 mln. For the nine months of 2012, net sales totaled USD 11,475 mln, EBITDA reached USD 774 mln and net profit amounted to USD 147 mln.

X5's Shareholder structure is as follows: Alfa Group – 47.86%, founders of Pyaterochka – 19.85%, X5 Directors – 0.13%, treasury shares – 0.11%, free float – 32.05%.