

## PRESS RELEASE

### Brambles Limited acquires Unitpool

**Sydney, 23 September 2010** – Brambles Limited has acquired 100% of the shares of Unitpool AG, the airline container pooling company headquartered in Zürich, Switzerland. Details of the transaction were not disclosed. Brambles is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange and has annual sales revenue of more than USD4 billion. It is a leading global provider of supply chain and information management solutions, with operations in 47 countries.

Brambles' subsidiary company, CHEP, best known for its blue pallets, is the world's leading provider of pallet and container pooling services with more than 7'000 employees supporting 345'000 customers in 45 countries. CHEP delivers, collects, repairs and reissues approximately 300 million pallets and containers annually through a global network of more than 600 service centres.

Like CHEP, Unitpool is an outsourced services provider whereby service quality heavily depends upon the availability of fixed assets. Unitpool owns and manages for its 20+ airline customers a pooled inventory of more than 33'000 Unit Load Devices (ULD), from which it ensures that these airlines have containers and pallets for their baggage and cargo on hand, when and where they need them.

For Brambles, entering the ULD pooling segment brings the opportunity of moving into a sizeable and growing market with very few service providers, where it can leverage its 40 years' experience in asset pooling. Unitpool's Chairman and management team are being retained by Brambles and they are looking forward to continuing to develop the company under new ownership. David Harman, CEO of Unitpool said: "Myself and the whole management team are thrilled about the manyfold opportunities this ownership change offers to our customers as well as to all of our employees. Combining our in-depth knowledge of the airline ULD pooling market with the strength and generic pooling know-how of the global Brambles organisation will lead to an even more consistent and focused service delivery as well as to potential new service offerings in the future."

Dr. Ludwig Bertsch, Chairman of Unitpool since the management buyout from Swissport International in 2007 added: "The acquisition by Brambles is a perfect fit for Unitpool. It will increase our scale substantially over the coming few years. The 2010 year has already been a great one for Unitpool, starting with the well-publicised acquisition of Cargolux as a customer and followed by Air Asia X and Air Bridge Cargo extending their contracts. We expect news of further new business wins to come out shortly. Now, with Brambles' financial strength, operational scale and expertise, global resources and deep understanding of the values and benefits of asset pooling at our disposal, we can build on the momentum and develop Unitpool into a global powerhouse."

Brambles CEO Tom Gorman said: "Unitpool is a natural fit for Brambles given our strategy of pursuing profitable growth opportunities in line with our core expertise in the provision of pooled equipment services. The acquisition opens an exciting new sector for Brambles that will allow us to leverage our unique global logistics footprint. It is a key step for Brambles in building a global containers business that will contribute strongly to our profitable growth in coming years."

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## **About Unitpool**

Unitpool is a Swiss-based asset management company that specializes in supplying and managing a fleet of 33'000 Unit Load Devices (ULD), across more than 250 airports, for a group of 24 member airlines. Unitpool is the only independent company to offer airlines a fully managed ULD pooling solution. ULD Management is a mission critical activity for airlines. Unitpool provides its renowned service through a team of professional staff with airline know-how, a tailor-made ULD management system and a global network of partners for repairs, maintenance, logistics and procurement. Unitpool currently employs 77 staff, most of which are based in the company's 24/7, Global Operations Centre in Bangkok, and in the field managing the ULD inventory at their customers' hub stations around the globe.

## **About Brambles Limited**

Brambles Limited is a provider of supply chain and information management solutions through two primary businesses, CHEP and Recall. Brambles employs more than 12,000 people in 47 countries. For further information on Brambles and all announcements, presentations and webcasts, please visit [www.brambles.com](http://www.brambles.com)

For more information on Unitpool visit [www.unitpool.com](http://www.unitpool.com)

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