



Monthly newsletter of Belarus business news, with a focus on M&A and privatization potential, published by Quantum capital, one of the leading M&A and strategic advisory boutiques in the region. © Quantum capital. All rights reserved.

**Vol.12, April - May 2011**

Subscribe at [www.qcapital.eu](http://www.qcapital.eu)

Phone: +370 616 077 00, E-mail: [office@qcapital.eu](mailto:office@qcapital.eu)

Page 1 of 2

## M&A AND PRIVATIZATION NEWS

### Sopharma AD acquires OOO Tabina

Briz SIA, a subsidiary of Sopharma AD acquired a 99% majority stake in OOO Tabina, operating through the Doktor DO brand. This acquisition will make SIA Briz the third largest private pharmacy business in Belarus. Doktor Do Apteka (OOO Tabina) operates 14 pharmacies and drug stores. The company generated revenues of BYR16.5 billion (US\$5.4 million) and employs 75 people. The amount of the deal remains undisclosed.

This is the second acquisition of the company this year in Belarus. In January 2011, Sopharma (through its Latvian unit SIA Briz) acquired the Belarussian pharmacy Interfarm.

## OTHER NEWS

### Belarus asks for IMF stabilisation loan

According to the official government statement „The government of Belarus and the National Bank of Belarus have sent a request to the International Monetary Fund to provide a stabilisation loan“, no other details were provided. An IMF mission will come to Belarus from June 1 to 13 in order to assess the situation.

### Lukashenko bans National Bank from selling gold reserves

On May 27 the Belarusian president issued a statement prohibiting the National Bank of Belarus from selling gold reserves and currency. „I have prohibited [National Bank Chief] Prokopovich from selling the country's gold reserves and currency. Go to the market with [Prime Minister] Myasnikovich, collect billions of dollars, and use them for basic needs. Egypt and vacations can wait, we can rest in Belarus.“

### Belarus Central bank devalues rouble

On May 23 the Belarus Central Bank confirmed that it would devalue the rouble, the new exchange rate is 4 930 rouble per dollar. The bank had already imposed a multiple-level exchange rate since April.

### The European Union plans further sanctions

In the beginning of May, 2 Belarussians who ran against Lukashenko in the presidential election in December went on trial for charges of organising mass unrest, with the possibility of facing 15 years of jail if found guilty. On the May 20 the foreign ministers of France, Germany and Poland announced that further sanctions targeting A. Lukashenko and companies that finance his government will be imposed.



Monthly newsletter of Belarus business news, with a focus on M&A and privatization potential, published by Quantum capital, one of the leading M&A and strategic advisory boutiques in the region. © Quantum capital. All rights reserved.

**Vol.12, April - May 2011**

Subscribe at [www.qcapital.eu](http://www.qcapital.eu)

Phone: +370 616 077 00, E-mail: [office@qcapital.eu](mailto:office@qcapital.eu)

Page 2 of 2

---

## Tensions rise after in Minsk after metro bombing

On April 11 at least 15 people were killed and more than 200 injured in the Minsk Metro in Belarus. An investigation into the causes has been launched.

### **Sources used**

Corporate know-how of Quantum capital, Belta, The Baltic Course, Telegraf, Belmarket, EBRD, IMF, National Bank of Belarus, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Belarus, National Department of Statistics, S&P, Belarus Today, Naviny, AFN, Prime-TASS, Economy Watch