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Bridgepoint buys in Afflelou

Bridgepoint, the European private equity group, has entered into a definitive agreement with Mr Alain Afflelou and Apax Partners for the acquisition of a controlling stake in Alain Afflelou SA. Afflelou SA is a French business that operates a franchise of more than 758 optical retail stores. Jean-Benoît Bassi, responsible for the French activities of Bridgepoint, said: "We are pleased to initiate this transaction and to benefit from Mr Afflelou's trust. We are convinced to make the company benefit from our outstanding experience gained in the retail sector, to take up the challenge of its development."

Bridgepoint acted as sole Mandated Lead Arranger of a debt package, structured as €255m of senior debt and €50m of mezzanine. The transaction was led by Jacques Pochon, and Jean-Christophe Frères of Calyon's Leverage Finance Paris team.

Frères acted as sole financial adviser to Bridgepoint in this transaction, assisting in the negotiation of the terms of the transaction with Alain Afflelou and Apax, valuing the Group and assisting in the structuring and structuring of the debt package. Bridgepoint facilitated the successful outcome of these negotiations thanks to its good relationship with Alain Afflelou and Apax.

The transaction was led by Virginie Morgon, Associé Gérant in Paris, François Funck-Brentano Associé Gérant and Sophie de Nadaillac Gérant. ACQ

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

Bridgepoint Capital acquisition of Alain Afflelou

Equity Provider:

BRIDGEPOINTCapital

Financial Adviser to Bridgepoint:

LAZARD

Debt Provider:

CALYON
CORPORATE AND INVESTMENT BANK

Legal Adviser to Bridgepoint:

LATHAM & WATKINS

New owners for optics firm

Dutch optical components specialist Anteryon International B.V., has secured a deal with Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V. to buy all of Philips' shares in Anteryon B.V.

The deal saw Philips swap the shares for a 10% stake in Anteryon International B.V. Further financial details of this transaction were not disclosed. Anteryon International B.V. is majority owned by Cosyma B.V.

Anteryon develops, manufactures and markets a range of professional optical products for the industrial optics, imaging & display, and data & telecom markets. The company, which was part of Philips Corporate Investments and based in Eindhoven, employs approximately 105 people in The Netherlands.

C4C Business Valuation and Analysis is acting as financial advisor to Anteryon International BV.

Houthoff Buruma acted as counsel to the private equity investors in Anteryon International B.V. A team led by Jan-Paul van der Hoek advised the buyers. Onno de Bruijn and Petri Broekmans acted as civil-law notaries in the transaction.

Jan-Paul van der Hoek explained: "From a legal perspective it is quite interesting to work on a transaction within a field of various different angles and interests, i.e. assisting professional private equity investors in multiple negotiations such as corporate executives of a listed company as Philips but also long term employees of the target and other interested parties." ACQ

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

Anteryon International B.V. acquisition of Anteryon B.V. from Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V.

Legal Adviser to Purchaser:

HOUTHOFF BURUMA
ADVOCATEN NOTARISSEN DELAATINGSADVISEURS

Ateme secures €4m new funding

Ateme, a world-leading video compression provider for FPGA, DSP and PC, has closed a €4m round of financing with venture capital firms XAnge Private Equity and Ventech.

Founded in 1991 and based in France, Ateme is an expert in the field of advanced video compression technology, and a valuable partner of major silicon vendors. Its leadership in MPEG-4 encoding results from a continuous research effort during the last few years.

Jean Bourcereau, General Partner at Ventech explained: "As shown by the recent acquisition of Scientific-Atlanta by Cisco, the two worlds of datacoms and consumer electronics are clearly colliding and this is creating many opportunities for new high-growth businesses."

The new funding will also support Ateme's international expansion. Thanks to its subsidiaries located in Montreal and Tokyo and its distribution network covering Europe, North America and Asia, Ateme's export activities reached 45% of its total turnover for the fiscal year 2005.

Kahn & Associés acted on behalf of Ateme on the deal. The firm participated in drafting and negotiating Ateme's pooling agreement upon the purchase of shares of the company by the two new investors.

In connection with this round of financing, Marie-Laure de Cordovez (partner, in charge of corporate law) and Tiphaine Hue (senior associate) advised and assisted the company. ACQ

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

Funding Received by ATEME

Equity Provider:

XAnge PRIVATE EQUITY **VANTECH**

Legal Adviser to Xange Private Equity:

UGGC & ASSOCIÉS

Legal Adviser to the Management Team:

Kahn & Associés

Financial Due Diligence Provider:

TUILLET ASSOCIÉS

Intellectual Property Due Diligence Provider:

BREESE ■ DERAMBURE ■ MAJEROWICZ