



THE MANAGEMENT TEAM OF SAFIC-ALCAN, TOGETHER WITH THE PRIVATE EQUITY FUNDS



ACQUIRED THE GROUP FROM PARQUEST CAPITAL MANAGEMENT HOLDING THEREBY A MAJORITY CONTROL POSITION.

The management team of Safic-Alcan, together with the private equity funds Sagard and Euromezzanine, just concluded the acquisition of their company from Parquest Capital. Safic Alcan ranks among the leaders in Europe for the distribution of specialty chemical products. Through this operation, Safic-Alcan's management gains the majority control of the company.

Société Générale Capital Partners (SGCP) also joined Sagard and Euromezzanine among the ranks of Safic-Alcan's financial partners.

This operation constitutes a new phase in the development of Safic-Alcan, which was majority owned by Parquest Capital since end of 2007 in a LBO carried out alongside the management team. During this period, Safic-Alcan experienced a significant growth, exceeding the objectives of its initial project, with revenues going from 250 M€ to nearly 400 M€, both through internal growth and build-ups.

Martial Lecat, CEO of Safic-Alcan, declared: "We are delighted by the arrival of Sagard and Euromezzanine, two long-term shareholders, within our capital. They will enable us to continue to develop the group with serenity, through external growth, as well as through internal growth. This operation is also a big step for Safic-Alcan in that it enables managers, who are heavily investing in the company's capital, to gain the control of the group and thereby to reaffirm its independence".

Antoine Ernout-Dairaine (Sagard) and Thierry Raiff (Euromezzanine) added: "We are happy to provide Safic-Alcan with long-term financial means for its development. We have a great confidence in the management team and we fully subscribe to their ambition to reaffirm the European leadership of Safic-Alcan on its various lines of business".

Denis Le Chevallier (Parquest Capital) declared: “We are very happy with the entrepreneurial success story we shared with management, as well as for the new chapter that is opening in the continuing independent development of Safic-Alcan”.

The financing structured for the acquisition was subscribed by HSBC and Natixis, both acting as a bookrunner, Natixis being also coordinator of the financing. Before the launch of the syndication, Société Générale joined HSBC and Natixis as a Senior Mandated Lead Arranger.

- **CONCERNING SAFIC ALCAN**

Safic-Alcan is one of the major European players in the distribution of specialty chemical products, more specifically within the fields of rubber products, coatings, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.

The Group benefits from a direct presence in the major countries of the European Union, as well as in Turkey and China, with notably strong positions in France, Spain, the UK, Germany, Benelux, and with an increasing presence in Eastern Europe.

Safic-Alcan posted nearly 400 M€ of revenues in 2014. The company is led by Martial Lecat, Philippe Combette and Jean-Michel Guyon.

- **CONCERNING EUROMEZZANINE**

Based in Paris, the 8 professionals of Euromezzanine performed since 1999 nearly 100 investments (for a cumulated amount of more than 2 BN€) in the most dynamic French SMEs. Euromezzanine investments vary between 10 and 100 M€, they can take the form of subordinate obligations such as mezzanine, as well as equity instruments. Euromezzanine can accompany management teams gaining the control of their company in transactions such as Safic-Alcan. Its interventions can also consist in LBOs alongside private equity investment funds, repurchases of minority shareholders, development financings... The investment in Safic-Alcan will be the 6th investment of the new fund EMZ7, a 695 M€ fund, raised in March 2014 from large French and European financial institutions. The transaction was performed by Thierry Raiff, Ajit Jayaratnam and Ludovic Bart.

Website: www.euromezzanine.com

- **CONCERNING SAGARD**

Sagard is a French private equity investment fund which accompanies the development of mid-market companies led by ambitious management teams. Sagard, created in 2003 at the

initiative of the Desmarais family (Power Corporation of Canada), gathers a round table of large industrial families and manages 2 BN€ worth of funds in total. Since 2004, Sagard and its team of 10 professionals based in Paris carried out 24 investments in the industrial and service sectors, in France, in Belgium and in Switzerland.

The team who worked on this operation gathers Antoine Ernoult-Dairaine, Maxime Baudry and Camille Claverie.

For more information, please consult: www.sagard.com

- **CONCERNING SOCIETE GENERALE CAPITAL PARTNERS**

Société Générale Capital Partners (SGCP), a specialized subsidiary of the bank, invests the net worth of the Société Générale Group in French SMEs for amounts up to 15 M€. For more than 30 years, it has brought its advices and his partnership to companies at key stages of their existence:

- New development phases
- Shareholder reorganizations
- Optimization of capitalization
- Transmissions

Fully integrated into the network of the retail bank in France, the teams of SGCP enjoy a great proximity with French SME, thanks to its Directors of Participations present in Paris, Lyon, Bordeaux, Lille, Strasbourg, Rennes and Marseille. In 2014, SGCP invested in about fifteen operations, thereby confirming its commitment to serve and finance French companies and the economy.

More information on: <http://capitalpartenaires.societegenerale.com>

The team who worked on this operation gathers François Rivolier, Marc Jacquin, Marc Diamant and Benjamin Richy.

- **Concerning PARQUEST CAPITAL**

Created in 2002, Parquest Capital is a recognized capital investment player in France on the mid-market segment. Previously called ING Parcom Private Equity and affiliated to the insurance branch of the ING Group, Parquest Capital took its independence in 2014. The insurance branch of the ING Group remains the first investor of the new 300 M€ fund raised at this occasion, together with about ten investors among which Capital LGT Partners, Idinvest and Five Arrows.

Since its creation in 2002, Parquest Capital performed 15 investments and implemented more than 35 external growth operations together with the management teams of its participations, with a philosophy of partnership with management teams and their projects, on the long-term, on ambitious growth projects.

The investment was followed by Denis Le Chevallier, Thomas Babinet and Guillaume Brian.

Website: www.parquest.fr

- **PRESS CONTACTS**

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- **BANKING FINANCING**

Bookrunners : Natixis (Hervé Seguin, Mikael Poirier, Paul Sabatie Garat), HSBC (Pierre Schweisthal, Grégoire Langhade, Sylvain Treilles)

- **TRANSACTION ADVISORS**

BUYERS Advisors :

Legal Advisor : KWM (Corporate : Maxence Bloch, Pierre-Louis Sévegrand-Lions, Simon Servan-Schreiber / Financing : Olivier Vermeulen, Adeline Thieu-Roboam / Fiscal & Tax structuration : Raphaël Béra, Gwenaël Kropfinger) ;

BDD Strategic: ATK (Jerôme Souied, Hugo Azerad) ;

BDD Financial: PWC (Guillaume Lorain, Eric Douheret).

MANAGEMENT Advisors:

Investment Bank: DC Advisory (David Benin, Frédéric Meyer)

Legal Advisor : Scotto & Associés (Nicolas Ménard-Durand, Tessa Parodi de Schonen)

Conseils CEDANTS :

Investment Bank: Leonardo & Co (Patrick Maurel, Ludovic Tron, Valérie Pellereau) ;

Legal Advisor and Legal VDD : DLA Piper (Sarmad Haidar, Julia Elkael, Martin Chassany) ;

VDD financial : 8Advisory (Pascal Raidron, Christian Berling, Vincent Lepreux) ;

VDD fiscal : Arsène Taxand (Frédéric Teper, Laurent Mamou).

BANK Advisors:

Legal Advisor: White & Case (Raphael Richard, Samir Berlat)