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Weinberg Capital Partners acquires majority stake in Chesneau–Serret, a leading precision mechanics company, in partnership with its management team

The Eiréné #1 fund of Weinberg Capital Partners has become the majority shareholder of Chesneau-Serret, a renowned player in precision mechanics, alongside its management team, David Rémongin and Amélie Pichol, who have significantly increased their equity stake as part of this transaction. UI Investissement and the Chesneau family are also reinvesting in the group.

Founded in 1965 and currently led by David Rémongin and Amélie Pichol, Chesneau-Serret is a key player in high-precision mechanics in France. The group serves advanced markets such as civil and military aerospace, as well as the medical sector. Chesneau-Serret specializes in manufacturing critical parts with complex geometries. The company operates with a team of nearly 100 employees across two sites located in Haute-Marne (Grand Est region) and Drôme (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region).

Chesneau, the founding company of the group, has built its success on unique expertise (such as fitting, polishing, machining, inspection, and metrology), its responsiveness, agility, and exceptional precision. In 2021, the group strengthened its capabilities with the acquisition of Serret Mécanique, enabling it to expand its expertise and diversify its client portfolio.

The entry of the Eiréné #1 fund, which specializes in supporting SMEs and mid-sized enterprises (ETIs) in the security and defense sectors, marks a significant milestone for Chesneau-Serret's growth. This partnership will support the group's ambitions by consolidating its presence in its traditional markets, accelerating its expansion into new segments, and pursuing an ambitious external growth strategy.

As part of this transaction, the management team has increased its stake in the company. UI Investissement, a shareholder since 2011 that has supported the company's transformation over the years, as well as the Chesneau family, are reinvesting, demonstrating their confidence in the group's development potential.

The transaction is expected to be finalized in February 2025.

David Rémongin and Amélie Pichol co-CEOs of Chesneau-Serret, comment: "We are delighted to embark on this new chapter in the development of Chesneau-Serret alongside Weinberg Capital Partners. The quality of our discussions with the Eiréné team and their deep understanding of our business and markets have convinced us that this partnership will provide the support we need to achieve our growth ambitions."

Lionel Mestre, Partner and Managing Director of Eiréné expertise at Weinberg Capital Partners, states:

"We are thrilled to partner with David Rémongin and Amélie Pichol, who have successfully strengthened and diversified the unique positioning of Chesneau-Serret. This investment is perfectly aligned with our strategy of supporting French companies with strategic positions and outstanding technological and industrial expertise. This acquisition also coincides with the final closing of our Eiréné #1 fund, which exceeded our target with €215 million in commitments."

Arnaud Grandclerc, Investment Director at UI Investissement, adds: "We are excited to continue this journey with David Rémongin and Amélie Pichol and to leverage a partner like Weinberg Capital Partners to support this next phase of growth. After two investment cycles, during which we facilitated a management transition and built a growing group with a strong identity and expanded expertise, we are eager to contribute to its further development."

Weinberg Capital Partners The right time – The right team

About Weinberg Capital Partners

Founded in 2005, Weinberg Capital Partners is an independent investment company historically active in buy-out capital, which expanded its field of intervention to real estate assets in 2008. In 2020, Weinberg Capital Partners added its capacity to invest in SMEs/mid-caps with a minority strategy focused on sustainable development issues, which offers extra-financial support known as impact, to better prepare companies for environmental and societal challenges. In 2023, Weinberg Capital Partners created a new fund, Eiréné, dedicated to the development of SMEs/mid-caps in the security and defense sector. In 2024, the company continued its growth in private equity with the launch of a co-investment fund, WCP Co-Invest.

With €1,8 billion of assets under management, Weinberg Capital Partners is a significant player in the mid-market equity segment in France.

Weinberg Capital Partners is a signatory of the PRI, a member of the International Climate Initiative and an active responsible investor.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ with a score of 92/100 in the PRI Direct – Private Equity category. ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ with a score of 87/100 in the PRI Direct – Real Estate category.

Weinberg Capital Partners supports <u>Télémaque</u>, an association for equal opportunities in education.

For more information: weinbergcapital.com.

About Chesneau-Serret

Founded in 1965 and led by David Rémongin and Amélie Pichol, Chesneau-Serret is a leading precision mechanics company in France serving advanced markets such as civil and military aerospace, medical, energy, and high-tech industries.

The group, with nearly 100 employees across two sites in Haute-Marne (Grand Est region) and Drôme (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region), provides comprehensive services (machining, fitting, deburring, dimensional measurement, peening, bench testing, balancing, assembly) and engineering solutions, including the development and technical support for specialized machinery.

About UI Investissement

An independent firm specializing in the development of unlisted French companies, UI Investissement has been working for over 50 years alongside entrepreneurs of startups, SMEs, and mid-sized enterprises to foster sustainable and economically robust growth.

UI Investissement manages over €1.5 billion in assets and collaborates with more than 300 business leaders in key societal sectors, such as healthcare, agribusiness, industry, and services. Development capital and buyout activities, the firm's historical core, represent more than half of the assets under management, benefiting over 50 companies through operational expertise and methodological tools developed by UI. In addition, its innovation and consolidation teams and investment vehicles support businesses throughout their life cycles, contributing to the economic dynamism of regions.

UI has a team of 80 employees and operates from Paris, supported by over 10 regional offices (Besançon, Clermont-Ferrand, Dijon, Lille, Limoges, Lyon, Nantes, Orléans, Reims, Rennes, Strasbourg).

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