



Press release

Publishing date :

ING Parcom Private Equity acquires 5àSec, world leader in retail textile care

ING Parcom Private Equity, an investment Company together with the Group Management Team has acquired the 5àSec company, world leader in retail textile care. This investment allows 5àSec to strengthen its leader position, to continue its international development but also to reinforce its shops network.

Created in France almost 40 years ago, and based on a simple concept that offers quick and quality cleaning services directly in shopping areas, 5àSec has developed its world network through both corporate and franchised shops.

In 2001, Milestone Capital (former EAC) became the main shareholder of the group and took a new management team led by Olivier Bédât (CEO) and Bart de Graaf (CFO); they implemented a new strategy, reorganized the network, and led an ambitious development policy.

Within 6 years, thanks to its know-how and an obvious international vision, the 5àSec Group has continuously expanded its activity:

- . the number of outlets has grown from 1'100 to more than 1'600 units
- . the Group's turnover has increased five-fold and the profitability has greatly improved.

Today, the 5àSec brand has a turnover over 250 M€ and employs more than 6'000 people.

With the support of the new main shareholder ING Parcom, the management team will continue its development strategy in a fragmented world market and take advantage of new external development opportunities, and of the area attractiveness in countries with fast-developing business.

The operation has been financed by funds brought both by ING Parcom and the management team. The Senior and Mezzanine debts have been settled by Société Générale CIB, Barclays (senior), Capzanine and IFE (mezzanine).

« Thanks to the funds brought by ING Parcom, our strategy is indeed to continue our development through corporate and franchised shops, thanks to the organic expansion of our markets and thanks to targeted purchases. In the next 4 years, we plan to open more than 400 new stores what will lead to a high growth of our market shares. This is a new step for our group which also allows us to set up new services and new methods to better answer to the customers' demands. I would like to thank Milestone Capital and all the members of our Supervisory Board for their help and their recommendations during the last few years. Today I am pleased to associate the management team to an experienced team who belongs to a worldly known group» said Olivier Bédât, Chief Executive Officer of the 5àSec group.



According to Pierre Decré, Associate Director, the strength of the 5àSec project and the success of its management team during the last few years has convinced ING Parcom of the importance of such an investment. Moreover, this agreement with the 5àSec group is in line with their strategy which consists in investing in an ambitious and long-term way into MBO/MBI operations on medium companies offering important prospects for development thanks to internal or external growth.

About the 5àSec Group

Created in 1968, the 5àSec group (www.5asec.com) has developed a unique concept of textile care shops which guarantees quick service and quality to the customer.

Being the world leader in this business, 5àSec will open more than 100 points of sale throughout the world. In 2006, the total turnover of the 5àSec brand has gone over 250 million euros

5àSec's group headquarter is based in Geneva and its main shareholder is the equity fund manager ING Parcom based in Paris.

About ING Parcom Private Equity

ING Parcom (www.parcom.fr) is the French department of Parcom BV, a Dutch investment company created 25 years ago which is linked to the life-insurance branch of the ING Group, and which manages a portfolio over one billion euros for about 60 involvements in the Netherlands, in France, in the UK and in Germany. ING Parcom invests on the equity capital of the Group and avoids then liquidity constraints specific to traditional equity fund managers.

Press Service : Trimedia Communications Rabia Ider +33 (0)1 55 30 70 81 rabia.ider@trimedia.fr	5àSec Contact: Dry Clean International SA Olivier Bédât +41 (0)22 860 80 40 olivier.bedat@5asec.com ING Parcom contact: Pierre Decré : + 33 (0)1 58 18 60 59 pierre.decre@parcom.fr
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