



Press Release

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5àSec strengthens its national network in France with the purchase of its main competitor

The 5àSec chain, world leader in retail textile care, strengthens its stores network in France. The brand has just acquired the 64 stores of the Financière de l'Ille group, one of the largest dry cleaning networks in France, with a 2007 turnover of 16.5 million Euros under the Bel & Blanc brand. François Flaud, founder of Financière de l'Ille has been nominated as General Manager of 5àSec France.

"We are extremely pleased with this new acquisition, the first since the arrival of ING Parcom Private Equity in our capital. Our group is getting stronger and stronger with the integration of this network whose geographical location (West of France) is very complementary to ours. We know these shops as most of these stores have been one day franchised by 5àSec. In addition, I am pleased to welcome in our team François Flaud, an experienced distribution and services professional, as the head of our French subsidiary", declares Olivier Bédard, CEO of the 5àSec group.

The 5àSec group's strategy is to carry on with its dynamic development through a network of corporate and franchised stores in the textile care industry, through organic expansion as well as targeted acquisitions.

With this acquisition, 5àSec group strengthens its leading position on the French market. The group can now rely on more than 130 corporate stores, in addition to the 230 held by its franchisees, to always better serve its customers and develop its services. These new stores are joining, as soon as today, the organization of 5àSec France whose general management has been entrusted to François Flaud.

The " Financière de l'Ille" was founded in Rennes in 2002 by François Flaud through acquisition of various dry cleaning companies located in the west of France, with equal part investments by Credit Agricole (Uni West Expansion and UI Management) and Siparex (Siparex Growth & Siparex Development).

François Flaud adds: "This integration within 5àSec enables us to join a group offering another dimension and new opportunities for our customers and our employees. Personally, I look forward to ensure the sustainability of these stores and to be able to actively participate in the further development of 5àSec in France. "

About Group 5àSec

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, with over 1,700 stores in 25 countries, 5àSec will open this year more than 100 points of sale throughout the world. In 2007, the total turnover of the 5àSec brand has surpassed 250 million euros

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



About ING Parcom Private Equity

ING Parcom (www.parc.com.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 the liquidity constraints specific to traditional equity fund managers.

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