

21 FRANCE TO SELL NORD-EST



Nord Est



21 Centrale Partners is pleased to announce the sale of Nord-Est, a leading global player in packaging, boasting a broad international footprint, state-of-the-art industrial processes, and a reputation for delivering the highest standards of quality to its clients.

21 took the company private in 2007 after a spin-off its non-strategic activities, in order to refocus the group on its core business of packaging and establish a leading global player in the sector. Under the 21 impulse, Nord-Est rationalized its industrial footprint and reorganized its production apparatus with a constant attentiveness to client needs. Moreover, the group considerably accelerated its international development, entering new high-growth markets through product development as well as build-ups, in France and most recently in Brazil, making Nord-Est the world leader in sample packaging for the cosmetics industry.

Nord-Est also improved internal organization and operational efficiency, and fostered organic growth through sales efforts. The company became very resilient, and is ideally positioned to continue on a path of further growth.

Over the four-year investment tenure, sales progressed by 25% to €M 325, Ebitda increased twofold, and significant deleverage was achieved;

Gérard Pluvinet, Founding Managing Partner of 21 Centrale Partners commented: *“Nord-Est is a prime example of 21’s vocation to create a bridge between industry and finance: executing a complex transaction, repositioning the company and redeploying business internationally, allowing to create substantial value in a challenging environment.”*

Edouard Silvy, Chairman of the Nord-Est group added: *“The support of 21 Centrale Partners was instrumental in taking Nord-Est to the next level of industrial development and in growing the company as a leading global player.”*

> ABOUT 21 PARTNERS

21 Partners is an international private equity group dedicated to growth buyouts in the Italian, French, Swiss and Polish mid-markets. The group, led by Alessandro Benetton and Gérard Pluvinet, manages some €Bn. 1.3 in funds. 21 Investimenti II (Italy) was launched in 2008 with total commitments of €M 283 and has completed 7 investments to date of which 1 already successfully realized. Since 2009, 21 Centrale Partners (France) has already completed 5 investments for its fourth fund with €M 380 in aggregate commitments.