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Boosted by its successful €600 million fundraising Eurazeo PME invests in SMILE

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The investment company Eurazeo PME, a wholly owned subsidiary of Eurazeo, has just completed its first investment in a high-growth mid-cap through its new fund, Eurazeo PME III: the SMILE group, a digital services company and leading European integrator and outsourcer of open source solutions. Created over 25 years ago, Smile has become a pivotal player in its market, thanks to a unique service range combining technical and business expertise in the areas of digital technology, e-business, embedded systems, the Internet of things, infrastructures, and business apps.

Following the announcement of exclusive negotiations on April 28, 2017, the acquisition of SMILE from the Keensight Capital and Edmond de Rothschild Investment Partners (Cabestan Capital) investment funds was finalized on May 30, 2017. With an investment of €47 million, Eurazeo PME is now the majority shareholder alongside the CEO Marc Palazon and the management.

This is Eurazeo PME III's first acquisition, having just closed its initial fundraising. Eurazeo contributed equity of €400 million, while investors from Eurazeo PME II and new reputed investors, from France, Europe and the United States, provided €186 million. The fund remains open to new subscribers. This new fundraising significantly strengthens Eurazeo PME's investment capacity, already bolstered in March 2015 by the Eurazeo PME II fund, when €520 million was raised, including €165 million provided by third-parties.

"We are delighted with this fundraising, successfully completed in 6 months," said **Olivier Millet, Chairman** of the Executive Board of Eurazeo PME. "It will first and foremost benefit French and European SMEs seeking to accelerate their growth, particularly internationally. Our new investment in SMILE demonstrates our ability to partner with high-growth companies."

About Eurazeo PME

Eurazeo PME is an investment firm and subsidiary of Eurazeo dedicated to majority investments in French SMEs with a value of less than €200 million. Eurazeo PME acts as a long-term shareholder, providing its portfolio companies with all the financial, organizational, and human resources they need for a sustained transformation. With an investment horizon generally ranging from 4 to 6 years, the group guides its portfolio companies in creating sustained and, hence, responsible growth. This commitment is formalized and deployed through a CSR (Corporate and Social Responsibility) policy.

In 2016, Eurazeo PME generated €965 million in consolidated revenues and accompanied the development of 12 companies: Dessange International, Léon de Bruxelles, Péters Surgical, Colisée, Vignal Lighting Group, Groupe Flash, MK Direct, Orolia, AssurCopro, Smile and The Flexitallic Group and Fondis Bioritech as a minority shareholder. These companies are solidly positioned on their markets and led by experienced management teams.

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