

PRESS RELEASE

**AKSIA CAPITAL IV ACQUIRES 100% OF LAMEPLAST COC GROUP**  
***Second investment by the fund managed by the private equity firm Aksia Group focuses on the Italian and European medical device, cosmetics and pharmaceutical packaging industry leader***

Milan, 28th April 2016

The independent private equity firm **Aksia Group SGR SpA** announces the acquisition of 100% of **Lameplast COC Group**, an Italian and European leader in the preparation, filling and packaging of pharmaceutical products, medical devices and cosmetics, from new container design to the finished product. The transaction was finalized on 28 April 2016. This is the second investment by the Aksia Capital IV fund after the December 2015 creation of the Visiant-Contacta group, the number-three player in the Italian BPO and contact center industry.

With sales of over 45 million Euros in 2015, the Group operates via two Italian companies *Lameplast SpA* and *COC Farmaceutici Srl* and the sales branch *LF of America* in the United States. Established in 1976 in Carpi, near Modena, Italy, **Lameplast SpA manufactures single-dose containers and multi-dose strips, vials of various volumes, droppers and other plastic packaging**. The more than 30 molding lines produce 350 million units annually through diverse and innovative technologies (injection, injection blow-molding and extrusion blow-molding), for the biggest names in the cosmetics and pharmaceutical industry. With 25 years of experience in the pharmaceutical sector, **COC Farmaceutici is able to offer complete production services for third parties**: from scientific research to product realization to the filling of containers for market. Thanks to this vertical integration, the *Lameplast COC Group* is able to offer its customers - Italian and international companies in the pharmaceutical and health care sector, including **Johnson & Johnson, Merck USA, Recordati, Chiesi Farmaceutici, Sooft and Molteni Farmaceutici** - support at all stages of the production process.

The transaction by Aksia Capital IV involves the acquisition of all the Group's shares from the three founders, who will continue to manage the **Lameplast COC Group**: Giovanni Ferrari as President and CEO and Antonio Fontana and Evro Fabbri as directors.

*"We are very proud of this transaction that allows our companies to focus on important goals for the future"*, comments **Giovanni Ferrari, president and CEO of the Lameplast COC Group**.

*"We decided to invest in a market leader able to integrate the packaging business with contract manufacturing activities and with extremely high quality products"*, states **Nicola Emanuele, an Aksia Group Partner**. *"We believe that the industry trend is clear: pharmaceutical companies are relying more and more on excellent partners. With this in mind, Lameplast COC Group is an ideal partner who is endowed with 40 years of leadership experience in the production and packaging of the safest and most hygienic plastic containers and that also has the ability to create medical devices and pharmaceutical products internally. In the near future our strategy will be to invest, in*

*particular, in the research and development of new applications in the field of vaccines, nutraceuticals, 'luxury cosmetics' and surgery'.*

The transaction was financed by a pool of national banks led by *MPS Capital Services* and including *BPER, Cariparma* and *GE Capital*.

During the transaction, *Aksia Group* was assisted by Francesco Cartolano (from the law firm *Accinni Cartolano & Associati*) for the legal aspects and by other established partners for the due diligence activities: Global Strategy (business); Deloitte Transaction Services (accounting); *Studio Russo De Rosa* (tax). *Fineurop Soditic* was the advisor for the structuring of the financing.

*Lameplast COC Group* vendors were assisted in the sale process by *NPV Europe*, advisory company which is part of British-Italian group *SRI*; by Massimiliano Mariani from the law firm *Studio MMV S.t.p.* in Carpi (Modena) and by Mr. Maurizio Bisi of the accounting firm *Studio Azeta Commercialisti Associati di Modena*.

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**Aksia Group SGR** ([www.aksiagroup.com](http://www.aksiagroup.com)) is an independent private equity firm founded in 1997 by Nicola Emanuele, Stefano Guidotti and Marco Rayneri. The Group manages the 147 million-Euro *Aksia Capital III Fund*, currently in the disinvestment phase, whose portfolio includes *Gimi, Emmeci, Mep Group, Novation, and Turbosol*. In order to continue its strategy of investing in small and medium sized companies, highly specialized in the manufacturing and mechanics industries and projected outside of the national borders, *Aksia Group* has put together the new *Aksia Capital IV Fund* with a capital endowment of about 110 million euros.

#### **Contacts**

Nicola Emanuele (Partner)

Marco Albanesi (Investment Manager)

T. + 39 02 890463 1

M. [nicola.emanuele@aksiagroup.com](mailto:nicola.emanuele@aksiagroup.com), [marco.albanesi@aksiagroup.com](mailto:marco.albanesi@aksiagroup.com)