

## Aksia Group SGR acquires C&D through the portfolio company Valpizza

*Valpizza continues broadening product portfolio with a transaction that strengthens company's leadership in deep-frozen finger food specialties and single-serve products sector*

Milan, 26 May 2021 - **Aksia Capital V**, a fund managed by Aksia Group SGR, announces the **acquisition** - through the portfolio company **Valpizza** - of **C&D**, leading company in frozen deep-fried specialties, from Apulia region.

With C&D acquisition, Valpizza continues pursuing the expansion strategy begun with the entry into the company of Aksia in July 2020, as well as consolidating its positioning into Italian and international markets by expanding its portfolio with top-quality products that combine Mediterranean food tradition with modern food habits.

A family-run business, founded in 1993 in Capurso, Bari, by the Carbonara family - which has reinvested in the Group - **C&D** offers a wide range of frozen deep-fried products, finger food and single-serve snacks for Retail, Food Service and Street Food markets. C&D's product portfolio includes panzerotti, calzoni, mini hot dogs and other deep-fried frozen specialties, ready in few minutes, that are result of an accurate ingredients selection. The company grew in recent years thanks to important partnerships with international players in Food Service and Retail.

**Valpizza**, headquartered in Valsamoggia (Bologna), is a leading frozen pizzas manufacturer, with a production capacity of over 80 million pizzas per year. Thanks to a strategic plan focused on product innovation and on creation of value into supply chain, the company consolidated its leadership on markets, supplying pizzas under its own brand and private label in every continent.

The acquisition of C&D is the **second add-on** for Valpizza, that follows Megic Pizza one, purchased through Aksia Capital V in November 2020. The transaction is part of the international sales network development strategy, carried out through implementing the global offer with high value products in terms of quality and convenience.

*"We recognized C&D as a player with great potential in terms of growth and worth investing in", said **Marco Rayneri, Founding Partner of Aksia Group**. "The aim is to replicate international Valpizza success, by exporting new products into geographical areas where brand awareness is already strong. I'm sure that synergies between Valpizza and C&D will allow us to reach new strategic targets".*

**Marco Setti, CEO of Valpizza**, added: *"C&D's business is complementary to our own. Its industrial and commercial integration in the Group, will allow us to enter into finger food and convenience segment, where*

*we identified significant growth trends and opportunities”.*

\*\*\*

Aksia Group was advised by the law firm Giliberti Triscornia e Associati for the legal and employment aspects, by PWC for financial due diligence, by the tax law firm Russo De Rosa Associati for fiscal matters, by EY for ESG and debt advisory aspects, and by Equita K Finance as buy-side advisor.

The funding for the transaction was organised and structured by Crédit Agricole Italia, the agent bank, and Intesa San Paolo, which were assisted by Studio Legale Dentons.

The Carbonara family, which reinvested in the transaction, was assisted by Alessandro Colaianni (A&C Consulting S.r.l.) for financial and tax consulting, and by the lawyer Giuseppe Chiaia Noya for the legal aspects. The notary Michele Labriola assisted the parties during closing.

\*\*\*

***Aksia Group** is a private equity fund management company that invests mainly in medium-sized Italian companies, boosting growth and international development and strengthening management. Aksia, whose founding and Managing Partners Marco Rayneri and Nicola Emanuele have been working together since 1997, has carried out 50 transactions in Italy and abroad, investing a total of over €500 million through five investment funds.*

**CONTACTS:**

**Aksia Group SGR**

T. + 39 02 8904631

E. [info@aksiagroup.com](mailto:info@aksiagroup.com)

**Valpizza**

T. +39 051 6705080

E. [info@valpizza.it](mailto:info@valpizza.it)