



ACKERMANS & VAN HAAREN

PRESS RELEASE

EGEMIN GROUP REACHES AN AGREEMENT WITH KION GROUP ON THE SALE OF ITS HANDLING AUTOMATION DIVISION

Antwerp,
May 7, 2015

Regulated information within
the meaning
of the Royal Decree of
14 November 2007

EGEMIN GROUP REACHES AN AGREEMENT WITH KION GROUP ON THE SALE OF ITS HANDLING AUTOMATION DIVISION

Egemin Group (Sofinim 60.86%, beneficial 71.5% via Axe Investments) has reached an agreement with the German KION Group on the sale of its Handling Automation division for an enterprise value of 72 million euros. The transaction, which is subject to a number of customary conditions precedent, is expected to be closed in the course of the third quarter of 2015 and will result in a capital gain of approximately 30 million euros (AvH share).

The other activities of the Egemin Group (Process Automation, Life Sciences, Infra Automation and Consulting & Services) are not part of this transaction and will be continued, under the control of Sofinim (AvH 74%) together with Axe Investments, under a new brand name which will shortly be disclosed.

KION Group, listed on the Frankfurt stock exchange (Deutsche Börse), is one of the world's two largest suppliers of forklift trucks, warehouse technology and associated services, with brands such as Linde and Still. The group is present in more than 100 countries, employs 23,000 people and realized a turnover of 4.7 billion euros in 2014.

The Handling Automation division of the Egemin Group offers customized solutions for the automation of logistics in warehouses, distribution centres and factories. In 2014, the division realized a turnover of 76 million euros with 300 employees.

The other divisions of the Egemin group realized a turnover of 52 million euros in 2014 with approximately 400 employees.

We refer to the joint press release of Egemin Group and KION Group for more details.





Financial calendar

May 20, 2015	Quarterly update Q1 2015
May 26, 2015	Ordinary general meeting
June 3, 2015	Dividend payment

Ackermans & van Haaren is a diversified group active in 5 key segments: Infrastructure & Marine Engineering (DEME, one of the largest dredging companies in the world - CFE and A.A. Van Laere, two construction groups with headquarters in Belgium), Private Banking (Delen Private Bank, one of the largest independent private asset managers in Belgium, and asset manager JM Finn in the UK - Bank J. Van Breda & C°, niche bank for entrepreneurs and liberal professions in Belgium), Real Estate, Leisure & Senior Care (Leas-invest Real Estate, a public regulated real estate com-

pany - Extensa, an important land and real estate developer focused on Belgium and Luxembourg), Energy & Resources (Sipef, an agro-industrial group in tropical agriculture) and Development Capital (Sofinim and GIB).

In 2014, through its share in its participations, the AvH group represented a turnover of 5.9 billion euros and employed 22,633 people. The group concentrates on a limited number of strategic participations with significant potential for growth. AvH is quoted on the BEL20 index, the Private Equity

NXT index of Euronext Brussels and the European DJ Stoxx 600.

Website

All press releases issued by AvH and its most important group companies as well as the 'Investor Presentation' can also be consulted on the AvH website: www.avh.be. Anyone who is interested to receive the press releases via email has to register to this website.

For further information please contact:

Luc Bertrand
CEO - President Executive Committee
Tel. +32.3.897.92.42

Jan Suykens
Member Executive Committee
Tel. +32.3.897.92.36

Tom Bamelis
Member Executive Committee
Tel. +32.3.897.92.42

e-mail: dirsec@avh.be



KION Group acquires Handling Automation division of automation specialist Egemin Group

- **Egemin Group is one of the leading suppliers of automation solutions for logistic flows, processes and infrastructure**
- **The KION Group is expanding its automation and system business**
- **Egemin's Handling Automation division will be managed as an independent company and as the KION Group's seventh brand under the name Egemin Automation**
- **Egemin Group will continue its other activities (Process Automation, Life Sciences, Infra Automation and Consulting & Services) under a new brand name which will shortly be disclosed**

Antwerp/Wiesbaden, 7 May 2015 – The KION Group has signed an agreement with the Belgian automation specialist Egemin Group to purchase its Handling Automation division for an enterprise value of approximately €72 million. The transaction is subject to a number of customary conditions precedent and is expected to be closed in the course of the third quarter of 2015.

The **KION Group** is one of the world's two largest suppliers of forklift trucks, warehouse technology and associated services and increases with this acquisition the number of brands in its portfolio to seven. The Wiesbaden-based company is thus significantly expanding its expertise and capabilities in system solutions for intralogistics and automation, fields that are seeing increasingly strong demand.

Egemin's Handling Automation division offers customized solutions for the automation of logistics in warehouses, distribution centres and factories. It delivers automated warehouse systems, automated guided vehicles and in-floor chain conveyors solutions. In fiscal year 2014, the Handling Automation division of the Egemin Group generated approximately €76 million of revenues with over 300 highly specialised employees.

The **Egemin Group's** other divisions (Process Automation, Life Sciences, Infra Automation and Consulting & Services) are not part of this transaction and will continue their activities under a new brand name, shortly to be disclosed. This company remains a subsidiary of Ackermans & van Haaren, listed on Euronext Brussels.

Acquisition opens up significant opportunities for the KION Group and Egemin Automation

"By acquiring Egemin's handling automation activities, the KION Group is strengthening its expertise and capabilities in the design and management of complex logistics automation projects for the future. Automated material handling solutions will play a crucial role in Industry 4.0 as they facilitate the vision of the smart warehouse and factory," said Gordon Riske, CEO of the KION Group, when the agreement was signed. "The fast-growing market for automated logistics and material flow systems is another area where we want to become a leading player. Together, Egemin Automation and the KION Group have vast potential for innovation that will enable us to provide the best possible solutions for our customers." The acquisition marks another milestone in the KION Group's implementation of its Strategy 2020.

For Egemin Automation, the agreement creates huge opportunities for all its divisions. Jan Vercammen, CEO of Egemin Automation, emphasised: "Egemin Automation has been working closely with the brands of the KION Group for many years. Being part of the KION Group will open up huge growth opportunities for the Handling Automation division. And it allows the four other divisions of the Egemin Group to focus on the growth of their core activities." Jan Vercammen will manage Egemin Automation within the KION Group and report directly to the KION CEO Gordon Riske.

Egemin Automation will be integrated in the KION Group as an independent company under the brand name Egemin Automation and will be responsible for the Group's project business in the fields of system solutions and automation. Particularly the intralogistics systems (ILS) business of the KION brand STILL will be closely linked to Egemin's handling automation activities.

Ackermans & van Haaren continues its support of the other Egemin Group divisions

"Ackermans & van Haaren has been a shareholder of Egemin Group since 1999," states Luc Bertrand, CEO of AvH and Chairman of Egemin Group's board of directors. "In this period of 15 years, a well thought-out strategy and continued professionalism has brought the company to a leading position in various fields of automation. We are very pleased to offer both Handling Automation and the other divisions the new possibilities they deserve. This agreement allows them to continue their growth, each with their own know-how and markets."

A more focused approach gives the Process Automation, Life Sciences, Infra Automation and Consulting & Services divisions new opportunities. Geert Stienen, current Egemin Group CFO, will lead this company as CEO: "This transaction allows us to deploy a dedicated business strategy, built to the particular needs of the four divisions. The

management and board of directors of Egemin Group are convinced that with this transaction these divisions can leverage on both their strong market presence and clear strategic focus to increase their customer intimacy and market share. As the Egemin Automation brand is integrated into the KION Group, we will shortly announce the new company name under which the remaining divisions will continue to deliver their solutions together."

The KION Group

The KION Group – comprising the six brands of Linde, STILL, Fenwick, OM STILL, Baoli and Voltas – is the largest manufacturer of industrial trucks in western and eastern Europe, the global number two in the industry and the leading non-domestic supplier in China. The Linde and STILL brands serve the premium segment worldwide. Fenwick is the largest supplier of material handling products in France, while OM STILL is a market leader in Italy. The Baoli brand focuses on the economy segment, and Voltas is a leading provider of industrial trucks in India. The KION Group is present in more than 100 countries and, in 2014, employed almost 23,000 people and generated revenue of around €4.7 billion. KION GROUP AG has been listed on Deutsche Börse's Frankfurt Stock Exchange since June 2013 and was admitted to the MDAX, the German stock index for medium-sized companies, in September 2014.

The Egemin Group

The Egemin Group designs, develops and integrates automation solutions to improve intralogistics and production processes for industrial companies and public infrastructure. The Egemin Group offers tailor-made solutions for its customers to give them a competitive edge. Target markets include distribution and logistics, life sciences, the food industry, oil and gas and infrastructure. The Egemin Group approaches the market through five divisions – Handling Automation, Life Sciences, Process Automation, Infra Automation and Consulting & Services. Its core activities include consulting and advice, automation projects and solutions and life cycle services. The Egemin Group operates on a world-wide scale from its headquarters in Antwerp and has 8 other offices located in Europe, North America, and Asia. The company employs 750 people.

Ackermans & van Haaren

Ackermans & van Haaren is a diversified group active in 5 key sectors: Infrastructure & Marine Engineering (DEME, one of the largest dredging companies in the world - CFE and Van Laere, two construction groups with headquarters in Belgium), Private Banking (Delen Private Bank, one of the largest independent private asset managers in Belgium, and asset manager J.M. Finn & C° in the UK - Bank J. Van Breda & C°, niche bank for entrepreneurs and liberal professions in Belgium), Real Estate, Leisure & Senior Care (Leasinvest Real Estate, a public regulated real estate company -

Extensa, an important land and real estate developer focused on Belgium, Luxembourg and Central Europe), Energy & Resources (Sipef, an agro-industrial group in tropical agriculture) and Development Capital (Sofinim and GIB). In 2014, through its share in its participations, the AvH group represented a turnover of 5.9 billion euro and employed 22,633 people. The group concentrates on a limited number of strategic participations with significant potential for growth. AvH is quoted on the BEL20 index, the Private Equity NXT index of Euronext Brussels and the European DJ Stoxx 600.

Disclaimer

This document and the information contained herein are for information purposes only and do not constitute a prospectus or an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in the United States or in any other jurisdiction.

This release contains forward-looking statements that are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Future results could differ materially from those described in these forward-looking statements due to certain factors, e.g. changes in business, economic and competitive conditions, regulatory reforms, results of technical studies, foreign exchange rate fluctuations, uncertainties in litigation or investigative proceedings, and the availability of financing. We do not undertake any responsibility to update the forward-looking statements in this release.

Further information for the media

Michael Hauger
Head of Corporate Communications, KION Group
Tel.: +49 (0)611 770 655
michael.hauger@kiongroup.com

Frank Brandmaier
Head of Corporate Media Relations, KION Group
Tel.: +49 (0)611 770 752
frank.brandmaier@kiongroup.com

Michaël Coryn
Marketing Communications Manager, Egemin Automation
Tel.: +32 (0)3 641 13 57
michael.coryn@egemin.com



Further information for investors

Frank Herzog

Head of Corporate Finance

Tel.: +49 (0)611 770 303

frank.herzog@kiongroup.com

Dr Karoline Jung-Senssfelder

Head of Investor Relations and M&A

Tel.: +49 (0)611 770 450

karoline.jung-senssfelder@kiongroup.com