



Sofindev further expands its management team

Sofindev management is happy to announce that it has brought in two additional recruits onboard to strengthen its current team.

Jean-Roger de Bandt joins the Sofindev team as a new partner. He combines close to ten years operational experience, with fourteen years of strategy consulting experience in areas such as strategy, M&A and operations.

Jean-Roger de Bandt worked as Chief Executive Officer of Moteo Group (2006-2013), a mid-sized group with a turnover of 250 MEUR, active in automotive distribution and as Chief Executive Officer of two Louvain-la-Neuve based technology companies, n-Side and Traxxeo (2013-2015). From 1994 till 2006, he worked in management consulting, first with Arthur D. Little, then with Roland Berger Strategy Consultants (2000-2006), where he became Managing Partner of the Brussels office in 2002. Previous to his management consulting experience, he worked as business development manager for telecom supplier Alcatel Bell. Jean-Roger holds a Master Degree in Law from the KUL (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven –1988) and a Master Degree in Business Administration from Columbia Business School (New-York – 1996).

Sven Vandewiele also joins the Sofindev team as new investment associate. He brings in a strong experience in transaction services, valuation, modelling and business planning.

Sven Vandewiele gained more than 4 years of experience in Transaction Services at PwC in London and Brussels. Prior to that he worked as an auditor at PwC Liège for 2 years. Sven is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA Institute) and holds Master Degrees in Financial Management (Vlerick Business School – 2009) and Commercial Engineering (Universiteit Hasselt – 2008).

About Sofindev

On 28 May 2015, Sofindev, a leading Belgian private equity investor specialized in buyouts and growth capital for small and mid-sized companies in the Belgian market, was pleased to announce that it had secured aggregate commitments in excess of €60 million at a first close of its new independent fund, Sofindev IV. Sofindev IV is now well underway to realize its €100 million fund target size.

Sofindev was created in 1991 by Sofina and Colruyt. Since then, Sofindev has invested more than €150 million in more than 40 SMEs in Belgium, through 3 funds, Sofindev I, II and III. The Sofindev III investors (Sofina, Colruyt, Korys, Imocobel and August Private Equity) continue to support the Sofindev team as they are also investing in Sofindev IV.

The Sofindev team also welcomes a number of new highly reputable investors in its new fund, and is particularly pleased to announce the participation of entrepreneurs and family co-owners of Sofindev portfolio companies in Sofindev IV.

Consistent with the team's operating experience and the overall investment strategy for Sofindev III, the new fund will continue to focus on partnering with ambitious entrepreneurs and managers of small and mid-sized companies active in attractive market segments. Sofindev III has made investments in 6 Belgian SMEs (Bockstael, Abelag, Cassis Paprika, Novy, Vanerum and Syx Automations), of which the first two investments have been successfully divested.

Sofindev IV will invest between €5 million and €20 million per transaction in companies with sales ranging from €10 million to €200 million, and take both majority and significant minority stakes.

Sofindev IV has already realized its first transaction. On May 28, 2015, Sofindev IV has closed the investment in Fedrus Invest Groep (<http://fedrusinvest.be>), in which it acquired a significant minority stake. Fedrus Invest Groep is Belgium's leading player in the wholesale of specialty building materials with a focus on EPDM and the distribution of roof building materials to the professional roofer via the APOK branded distribution network.