

Press Release

Ergon Capital Partners raises €150 million to increase the size of its third fund

Brussels, July 19, 2016

Ergon Capital Partners (“Ergon”) announces today that it has completed a fund size increase of €150 million to bring the size of its third fund (“ECP III”) to €500 million. The €150 million increase was committed by Sienna Capital, the alternative investments platform of the publicly traded investment holding company Groupe Bruxelles Lambert (“GBL”), and a select number of European institutional investors active in private equity.

ECP III increased its fund size to continue investing in leading mid-market companies in its core Western European geographies. Ergon combines a family-orientated, entrepreneurial and long-term vision with a pan-European presence, giving it a unique perspective in the European private equity landscape.

This size increase in ECP III comes ahead of the fundraising of Ergon’s fourth fund.

Wolfgang de Limburg, Managing Partner of ECP III, said *“We are delighted with this fund size increase of ECP III. We are very excited to have Sienna Capital/GBL continue supporting Ergon and to welcome new highly reputable institutional investors into our latest fund. We believe their confidence results from our strong team, platform and investment strategy, which have delivered strong performance through different economic cycles.”*

Colin Hall, CEO of Sienna Capital, added *“We are proud of Ergon’s achievements and are pleased to have new institutional investors in ECP III alongside Sienna Capital. This fund size increase is in line with Sienna Capital’s strategy of seeding high quality managers ahead of them raising outside institutional capital. We plan to continue supporting Ergon in its future funds and are confident in the team’s ability to generate strong returns by developing their portfolio companies into pan-European leaders using Ergon’s unique industrial and family orientated investment approach.”*

About Ergon Capital Partners

Ergon is a mid-market private equity investment company backed by GBL, through its fully-owned subsidiary Sienna Capital, and other institutional investors. Its third fund, ECP III, manages €500 million of capital. Ergon is a disciplined and discreet value investor, which provides “patient and friendly capital” to entrepreneurs and managers, who need capital and industrial solutions to accelerate the development of their companies. Ergon makes equity investments from €20 million to €70 million into leading companies with a sustainable competitive position in attractive niche markets located in the Benelux, France, Italy, Spain, Germany and Switzerland. Ergon is advised by Ergon Capital Advisors with offices in Brussels, Paris, Milan, Madrid and Munich.

Since inception in 2005, Ergon invested in 15 companies (of which 7 in Italy, 4 in the Benelux, 2 in France, 1 in Spain and 1 in Germany) and has completed 19 add-on acquisitions for a total aggregate transaction value of €3 billion.

For more information, visit www.ergoncapital.com

About Sienna Capital

Sienna Capital is the alternative investments platform of the publicly traded investment holding company GBL. GBL is a holding company which has been listed since 1956 and whose shares are admitted to trading on the regulated market of NYSE Euronext in Brussels.

Sienna Capital invests in unlisted assets to earn attractive risk-adjusted returns and diversify GBL’s portfolio. Sienna Capital emphasizes seeding transactions while also considering direct investments in external managers.

Sienna Capital’s current portfolio includes investments in private equity funds (Ergon, Sagard), a debt fund (Kartesia), a healthcare growth capital fund (Mérieux Développement), a fund whose strategy consists of acquiring long-term shareholdings in mid-sized listed European companies (PrimeStone), and a fund providing long-term capital to family- and founder-led businesses (BDT Capital Partners).

For more information, visit www.sienna-capital.com