



PRESS RELEASE

Aleph joins forces with Wise SGR to speed up growth in the digital printing industry

Como, 8 May 2017 – **Aleph** announces the signing of a binding agreement whereby **Wise SGR** S.p.A. – on behalf of Wisequity IV closed-ended fund – will purchase a majority stake of the company.

Wise SGR is a leading Italian **management company of private equity funds** and has a significant experience in the digital printing industry, following the investment in JK Group, a leading producer of inks for digital printing, then divested in 2015.

Aleph is emerging as **a leading player in the digital printing industry** providing not only large format digital inkjet printers for textile and other applications but also drying systems, proprietary software and consumables.

Over the last 18 years, Aleph has installed over 400 digital plotters and provided customers with related consumables in Italy and abroad. In 2015 the company has successfully launched the new series of LaForte large format printing machines and since then is contributing to the further digitalization of the textile market.

Beside **developing and producing state of the art products for all printing processes**, Aleph invested a lot in offering a **prompt and reliable post-sales technical support** and this is recognized by its customers as one of the key assets of the company.

Aleph has successfully combined the software competencies of its team with the knowledge of the textile industry being based in the unique textile district of Como.

“It is not a coincidence that the leading companies within this industry are Italian and Aleph is emerging as one of the most reliable solution providers. Innovation capabilities, service attitude and a great deal of commitment convinced us that Aleph team is the right one to invest on”, **Valentina Franceschini**, Partner at Wise, said.

Alessandro Manes, founder and CEO of Aleph, said: “Aleph has chosen Wise as a partner because they have a significant knowledge of our industry and a successful track record in supporting small and medium companies like us in growing business through operational improvement, internationalization and M&A.”

Aleph founders will continue to manage the company focusing on **the development of new products and solutions** and the **improvement of the international presence**.

Aleph’s ambition is **to become the preferred partner for companies printing on textile and other selected applications around the world**.

The **transaction** has been led for Wise by **Valentina Franceschini, Wise Partner**. **Gianluca Boni** acted as senior advisor while **Bonelli Erede** and **Spada Partners** were respectively legal counsel and financial/tax advisor.

Aleph have been advised by **Alessandro Florida** as financial advisor and **Gatti Pavesi Bianchi** as legal counsel.

Wise SGR

Wise SGR SpA (www.wisesgr.it) specializes in the management of Private Equity closed-end funds, investing in small and medium-sized companies, with a special focus on Italy. The funds managed by Wise are typically involved in leverage buy-out and capital increase transactions, dedicated to companies that are leaders in their niche markets. The two major objectives are to lead "build-up" transactions, in order to enhance competitiveness and profitability, and to push the international development. Wise, controlled by the management team, has currently three funds under management: Wisequity II, with total commitment of 170 M€, that is in the divestment process; Wisequity III, with commitment exceeding 180 M€, has five remaining companies in the portfolio: Alpitour, Biolchim, Colcom Group, NTC e Controls; Wisequity IV closed the fund raising in March 2016 reaching its hard cap at 215 M€ and already invested in four companies: Corob, Imprima, Tapi and Tatuus.

For further information**Close to Media**

Luca Manzato – 335.8484706
luca.manzato@closetomedia.it

Adriana Liguori – 345.1778974
adriana.liguori@closetomedia.it