

PRESS RELEASE

**WISE EQUITY INVESTS IN ALMAC TO SUPPORT ITS GROWTH PATH**

*Almac is the 6th investment made by the Wisequity V fund, which will hold a majority stake with the aim of continuing the company's expansion through product range extension and strategic acquisitions.*

**Milan, 08<sup>th</sup> of September 2022.** **Wise Equity**, the management company of the fund Wisequity V, announces the signing of a binding agreement to enter the capital of **Almac S.r.l.**

**Almac** is specialised in the **design and production of self-propelled tracked aerial platforms and transporters, characterised by a high level of innovation and technology.** The company designs and manufactures in Italy, with headquarters located in Viadana (Mantova) and distributes its products worldwide with an export share of around 90%..

Founded in 2013 by Andrea Artoni and Pietro Agosta Del Forte, Almac has succeeded in a short time in establishing itself internationally in the world of Aerial Work Platforms, becoming the most innovative player in the sector. Almac platforms are used in the most diverse sectors (rental, maintenance, construction, gardening, railways, etc.) and are equipped with **patented cutting-edge technologies, unique in their sector.** Among Almac's innovative technologies, the bilevelling system stands out, which allows the machines to operate on uneven terrain and in very complex working conditions, improving operating efficiency while complying with the highest safety standards.

In addition to the direct management of the Italian market, Almac is present in **Australia and the UK with two direct branches.**

The group expects to close 2022 financial statements with a **turnover of around Euro 28 million**, a strong increase on the previous year. The joint plan of Almac's management and Wise Equity is to strengthen the internal structure and broaden the range with products, which are complementary to the current offering, while maintaining a focus on the needs of the world's most important rental companies, while also opening up to opportunities for potential synergic acquisitions.

The deal foresees the acquisition of a majority stake by Wisequity V and the reinvestment of Andrea Artoni, who will take over as CEO..

**Andrea Artoni**, founder and CEO of Almac said: *"Thanks to a deep knowledge of the market, a growth strategy focused on product quality and innovation, and a strong, young team with exceptional qualities, our group has achieved important results in just a few years. Now it is the time to consolidate what has been achieved so far, strengthen the management structure and accelerate growth also by evaluating opportunities for future acquisitions. For this reason, we have joined forces with Wise Equity, a partner that has already gone through many successful acquisition projects in adjacent sectors, enabling their portfolio companies to achieve important growth targets".*

**Luigi Vagnozzi**, partner at Wise Equity, who oversaw the transaction together with **Ilaria Montefusco**, Investment Manager, said: *"We are thrilled to begin this journey with Almac, an example of an Italian 'pocket-sized' multinational company that, by focusing on innovation, has been able to establish itself in just a few*

*years as one of the most interesting players in a global market that sees the presence of major groups. Almac and its management team are the ideal platform to start a consolidation project in this sector'.*

The investment in Almac represents the 6th transaction carried out by Wisequity V, which has invested around 68% of its commitments of Euro 260 million.

## THE ADVISORS INVOLVED

### **Wise Equity SGR**

Legal Advisor: Simmons & Simmons (with a team composed of Supervising Associate Alessandro Bonazzi and Associate Ida Montanaro, as regards corporate aspects, and Of Counsel Alessandro Elisio, as regards bank financing aspects);

Accounting and tax advisor: Spada Partners (with a team composed of partner Cristiano Proserpio, Massimo Fagioli, Giorgio Corti and Luca Tibaldo for the *Financial Due Diligence* and a team composed of partner Guido Sazbon, Paolo Cricchio and Roberta Robba for the *Tax Due Diligence*);

ESG: Deloitte (with a team consisting of Raffaella Sciartilli, Irene Giacchetto and Fabiano Rancan).

### **Almac**

Legal and fiscal advisor: Studio Dr. Giorgio Bellucci;

Financial Advisor: Banca Akros (Alessandro Erbanni - *Head of Industrials*, Orazio Bocchieri, Manuela Fabbri).

**Banco BPM** is going to finance the transaction, with a team composed of Federico Born and Domenico Costantino.

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### **Wise Equity SGR**

*Wise Equity SGR is a company active in the management of closed-end investment funds investing in small and medium-sized companies with a focus on Italy. The funds managed by Wise Equity typically carry out Leveraged Buy-Out and development capital operations dedicated to companies that have leading positions in their niche with two main objectives: to increase critical mass, also through 'build-up' operations, in order to improve the competitiveness and marginality of the companies, and to foster their international development. Wise Equity currently has three funds under management:*

- *Wisequity III, with subscribed capital of over EUR 180 million, one investment in its portfolio (NTC) and one almost entirely divested (Alpitour), having already realised its holdings in Eidos Media, Kiian, Primat, Biolchim, Colcom Group and Controls;*
- *Wisequity IV with subscribed capital of €215 million and employed about 92 per cent of its capital on eight investments: Corob, Imprima, Tapi, Tatuus Racing, Aleph, Trime, Innovero and Waycap;*
- *Wisequity V, which was launched in July 2019 with an allocation of EUR 260 million, so far partially deployed on five investments: Fimotec, Vittoria, Cantieri del Pardo, Selle Royal and Special Flanges.*

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**Press Office - Wise Equity SGR**

**Close to Media** - *a company founded by Elisabetta Neuhoff*

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