



Unigrains and Carvest invest in Leygatech

Leygatech, the French leader in recyclable plastic packaging films with high barrier functionalities, begins a new phase in its development

Paris and Saint-Romain-Lachalm (43), March 27th, 2023 – Leygatech, the French leader in recyclable plastic packaging films with high barrier functionalities, has opened its capital to Unigrains, the agri-food specialized investor, and Carvest, the regional investment structure of Crédit Agricole Group, as minority shareholders. This operation aims to accelerate Leygatech's development through organic and external growth projects.

Majority-owned by its Management since 2002, Leygatech develops recyclable and innovative products with functional properties that ensure the protection and preservation of fragile, oxidizable and/or perishable contents. Its two industrial sites in Haute Loire, France, certified ISO 9001, 14001 and FSSC 22000, produce more than 34 000 tons of flexible films per year, servicing agri-food, pharmaceutical and other industrial clients.

Leygatech employs 200 people and has annual sales in excess of €100 million.

Through the conservation and protective properties of its polyethylene-based mono-material films, Leygatech provides unique added value in the flexible plastics value chain, where substitution is not possible. An innovative player and pioneer of the circular economy in its sector (89% of production is recyclable), Leygatech is a key partner for clients in the recyclability of their packaging while guaranteeing the safety of their products.

With the support of Unigrains and Carvest, Leygatech will embark on a new stage in its history, with an acceleration of the market trend towards recyclable mono-material films and gives itself the means to study external growth opportunities in France and abroad in order to enter new markets and/or acquire new expertise.

Thierry BONNEFOY, CEO of Leygatech, added: *"We are delighted to welcome Unigrains and Carvest and are counting on them to support us in implementing an external growth strategy and strengthening our equity capital. Unigrains' experience in the agri-food sector is of particular interest and offers clear synergies with our own expertise. At the same time, with Crédit Agricole, our historical banking partner, we share strong values and local anchors that are expressed through this transaction. Finally, the experience of both Unigrains and Carvest will enable us to accelerate our international development."*

Romain PINPERNET, Investment Director with Unigrains, added: *"Unigrains has long supported the agri-food packaging sector and is well aware of the opportunities and challenges. We are delighted to both support the future development of Leygatech and promote its products to industrial actors, always seeking innovative solutions in response to the technical and societal issues posed by the evolution of packaging. Through the quality of its teams, its know-how and its capacity for innovation, Leygatech is a driving force for the responsible transition of its industry and has all the tools to be a consolidating player."*

Quentin COSTE, Investment Officer with Carvest, added: *"Carvest, as a subsidiary of Crédit Agricole Loire Haute-Loire, is delighted and proud to support Leygatech and its management in this new growth phase. Leygatech perfectly embodies our philosophy of supporting partners to combine ambitious development projects, strong territorial anchors, increased national and European visibility and the conservation of regional-based decision centers. We are also sensitive to the transformations initiated by Thierry Bonnefoy and his teams for the recyclability of products and the development of the circular economy around plastic films, an issue that is central to Crédit Agricole's medium-term project and a real challenge for the agri-food sector. The Crédit Agricole Group, and in particular the Caisse Régionale du Crédit Agricole Loire Haute Loire, the historical banking partner of this promising regionally based mid-sized company, also supported this transaction."*

Actors involved in the transaction

Advisors to Leygatech:

- **Legal Advisor to Management: CJA** (Patrick ROIRON, Jean-Baptiste MERCIER)
- **Financial Advisor: AEX & CO** (Gilles TAMET, Virginie PUIPIER)

Financial Investors:

- **Unigrains** (Romain PINPERNET, Anabelle GERBAL, Emma LE CLAIR, Eric PORCHERON, Cécilia MARTIJENA)
- **Carvest – CA LHL Capital Expansion** (Quentin COSTE, Marie-Christine MAURICE)

Advisors to Investors:

- **Legal Advisor: KELTEN** (Laurent SIMON, Mathias LENCLUD, Sarah VIVIER)
- **Legal DD: KELTEN**
- **Financial DD: Next ! Financial Advisors** (Hervé KRISSI, Laura GUERIN, Augustin DABOUT)

Bank Financing:

- **Crédit Agricole Loire Haute Loire** (Sophie ROCHE, René DU LAC)
- **Caisse d'Épargne Auvergne Limousin** (Laurent EXBRAYAT, Fabrice GOURGEONNET)

About Unigrains

For 60 years, Unigrains has accompanied the development of agri-food and agro-industry companies providing tailor-made financial solutions in equity and quasi-equity, as well as contributing its recognized industry expertise. Unigrains manages 1 billion euros and is a partner for nearly 80 companies, operating at various stages of their development, notably capital restructurings, strategic investments and acquisitions, and ensuring national and international growth.

For more information: www.unigrains.fr

About Carvest

A joint subsidiary of 11 Regional Banks of the Crédit Agricole Group, including Crédit Agricole Loire Haute-Loire, Crédit Agricole Régions Investissement (Carvest) supports regional companies in the implementation of growth capital and buyout transactions.

As a responsible and active minority investor, Crédit Agricole Régions Investissement is a long-term partner managing €M 300 with nearly 150 regional holdings. Carvest relies on a team of experienced, regionally-based professionals in Lyon, Orléans, Dijon, Strasbourg and Reims.

Carvest's interventions are part of medium-term projects aimed at promoting common heritage alongside managers by favoring the sustainability of businesses and employment in regions rather than financial cycles potentially constrained by exogeneous factors.

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