



Good company for companies

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## Gimv invests in medical technology company Endosense

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Gimv invests CHF 7 million in the series B financing round of Swiss company Endosense. This medical technology company focuses on catheter ablation for treating cardiac arrhythmias. In 2005, the enterprise already received CHF 22.6 million in its first financing round. Gimv, Edmond de Rothschild Investment Partners, Neomed, VI Partners, Sectoral Asset Management, Ysios Capital Partners and Initiative Capital Romandie together invest over CHF 38 million. This second financing round will allow Endosense to commercialise its product TactiCath<sup>®</sup> in the European market and start clinical studies in America.

Endosense ([www.endosense.com](http://www.endosense.com)) was founded in 2003 in Geneva. It develops and commercialises TactiCath<sup>®</sup>, a unique catheter used for treating cardiac rhythm disorders. Catheter ablation is a treatment whereby a special catheter is advanced into the patient's left heart chamber via the femoral vein.

TactiCath<sup>®</sup> improves the safety and effectiveness of catheter ablation treatment. The optic fibres of the catheter measure the contact force between the catheter and the beating heart wall. This to avoid that the contact force is too slight, reducing the effectiveness of the treatment, or that the contact force is too great, risking heart wall perforation. TactiCath<sup>®</sup> received the European CE mark and will be rolled out commercially in the European Union later this year. About 5 million people in the European Union suffer from heart fluttering. Since this disorder is mainly related to old age and the population is ageing, the demand for catheter ablation is expected to increase swiftly.

Patrick Van Beneden, Executive Vice-President Life Sciences at Gimv, will become member of Endosense's board of directors. He comments on this transaction: *"Endosense has an experienced management team and an entrepreneurial CEO. Moreover, Endosense has developed a product that will greatly improve the treatment of cardiac rhythm disorders. We are convinced that TactiCath<sup>®</sup> will occupy a prominent place in this growing European market in the years to come."*

No further financial information on this transaction will be disclosed.



Gimv

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# Press release

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Gimv is a European investment company with nearly 30 years of experience in private equity and venture capital. The company is listed on NYSE Euronext Brussels and currently manages around EUR 1.7 billion of assets (including third party funds).

Gimv undertakes buyouts and provides growth capital to established companies. Local teams in Belgium, France, The Netherlands and Germany concentrate on these activities. Gimv-XL provides growth financing to larger growth companies in Flanders. Gimv makes venture capital investments in high tech sectors through its specialist teams in Life Sciences, Technology and Cleantech.

Its DG Infra+ fund also focuses on infrastructure projects in the Benelux. Gimv operates in Central and Eastern Europe through several funds and joint ventures.

For more information about Gimv, please visit our website: [www.gimv.com](http://www.gimv.com)