



Paris (FR), 18 October 2022, 7h30 AM CET (embargo)

With the support of Gimv, Groupe Claire acquires E.I.E. from Sade, a subsidiary of Veolia

Specialist in the supply of equipment and solutions for drinking water networks, Groupe Claire, in which the investment company Gimv became the majority shareholder in December 2018, is accelerating the development of its traditional product range with the acquisition of Equipement Industriel Européen ("E.I.E.") from Sade, a subsidiary of the Veolia Group. By taking this new step, Groupe Claire, which has been growing steadily for several years, is strengthening its position as market leader in France.

Groupe Claire (www.groupe-claire.com) designs, develops and supplies solutions for equipment for metering, connection and control of drinking water networks. The group, which places the preservation of water resources at the heart of its concerns, has both :

- a range of equipment for the construction, maintenance and repair of water distribution networks (home connection, connection, metering environment, equipment, operating tools) and irrigation networks via its Sainte-Lizaigne brand references and Hydroméca;
- a range of products and solutions designed to improve network performance (diagnosis, monitoring, leak detection, remote control) with its Fast, Ijinus and Wayve brands.

After the acquisition of Ijinus, which enabled it to strengthen its position and reach a critical size in communicating products, the acquisition of E.I.E. enables Groupe Claire to complete its range of traditional products intended for the equipment for water networks.

E.I.E., managed by José de Sousa, designs, manufactures and markets equipment for the installation, drilling and repair of water networks, and offers uninterrupted intervention solutions. It employs 22 people and has an annual turnover of around EUR 5 million.

This new operation enables the Claire Group to offer its customers a complete range of solutions for intervention without network interruption, while benefiting from strong technical, industrial and commercial synergies with the other entities.

ABOUT GIMV

Gimv is a European investment company, listed on Euronext Brussels. With 40 years' experience in private equity, Gimv currently has EUR 2 billion of assets under management. The portfolio contains around 60 portfolio companies, with combined turnover of EUR 3.1 billion and more than 19,000 employees.

As a recognized market leader in selected investment platforms, Gimv identifies entrepreneurial, innovative companies with high growth potential and supports them in their transformation into market leaders. Gimv's five investment platforms are Consumer, Healthcare, Life Sciences, Smart Industries and Sustainable Cities. Each platform works with an experienced team across Gimv's home markets of Benelux, France and DACH, supported by an extended international network of experts.

Further information on Gimv can be found on www.gimv.com.



ABOUT THE GROUPE CLAIRE

Founded in 1900, the Claire - Sainte-Lizaigne Group is a recognised manufacturer of water connections for the main water distribution groups, local authorities, specialist distributors and public works companies. Specialising in connection equipment, metering environments and connections for drinking water supply, the Group also develops customised solutions for metering and systems for network monitoring and control. It is the market leader in France with 250 employees. Claire's ambition is to be a major player in equipment and services, whether traditional, connected or intelligent, for water networks.

For more information, visit www.groupe-claire.com

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