



PRESS RELEASE

CAPZA buys a majority stake in ITAL Express to support its growth strategy

PARIS, 26 JULY 2019

CAPZA, a leading private investment platform focusing on small and midcaps, has joined forces with the management team at ITAL Express to buy the company as part of a majority LBO, the aim being to help the company shore up its growth.

ITAL Express was founded in 1975 and is among France's leading suppliers of spare parts for trucks, trailers, LCVs and agricultural tractors. The company has over 25,000 SKUs covering the whole range of needs of repair and maintenance professionals. It caters particularly to those requiring original technical components of high quality. It boasts a staff of experienced employees and revenue of 36 million euros.

ITAL Express stands out from the rest of the competition thanks to the quality of its sourcing and logistics platform, which enable it to offer spare parts of excellent value for money and to secure a high level of product availability. Unlike the industry's traditional firms, the company incorporates a substantial advisory component into its offering thanks to a team of technical-commercial experts who are able to remotely identify faulty parts on any brand and any model.

ITAL Express has been growing organically for the past 4 years, driven largely by the trucks and LCV businesses. It is now embarking upon a new phase of expansion geared towards making bolt-on acquisitions in France and Europe, developing new complementary product ranges, and ramping up its online selling capabilities.

"ITAL Express has ambitious plans to expand, primarily by making acquisitions in France as well as internationally. We are enthusiastic about the idea of being able to support Patrice Claverie and his team through this new phase of development", says **Benoit Choppin, Managing Partner at CAPZA**.

"We are pleased to enter this new phase of our development with the CAPZA teams, who have known the company for several years. We wanted to partner with a Fund that would enable us to accelerate our external growth momentum and we believe we have found the right partner", adds **Patrice Claverie**, Chairman of ITAL Express.

CAPZA

PRESS RELEASE

Press contact

Kristell Le Nadan - Citigate Dewe Rogerson
Kristell.LeNadan@citigatedewerogerson.com
Tel: +33 (0)1 53 32 84 71 / +33 (0)6 98 49 22 27

About CAPZA Flex Equity

Through the Capzanine Flex Equity range of funds, CAPZA offers flexible financing solutions combining majority or minority capital, convertible bonds and mezzanine to support small and mid-cap companies with EBITDA ranging from €3m to €10m in their development projects.

Since 2004, CAPZA Flex Equity teams have achieved more than 60 transactions combining capital and mezzanine. Close to the entrepreneurs, and benefiting from a deep knowledge of the local industry, the CAPZA Flex Equity teams offer hybrid long term financing solutions that adapt to the company's project.

About CAPZA

Created in 2004, CAPZA¹ is an established European private investment platform focused on small and mid-cap companies. The company is majority owned by its teams and supported by the AXA Group.

With €2.7bn of assets², CAPZA places its experience and passion for developing businesses at the service of investors in Europe and worldwide with its platform of 4 complementary areas of expertise: Flex Equity, Private Debt, Transition³ and Artemid⁴.

CAPZA offers financing solutions to small and mid-cap companies at every stage of their development. Its unique platform allows CAPZA to support companies over the long term by providing them with custom made financing solutions (majority capital, minority capital, subordinated debt, senior debt, etc.). CAPZA is a generalist but has built up strong expertise in supporting companies in the health, technology, agri-food and services sectors.

CAPZA has about 50 employees based in Paris, Munich, Madrid and Milan.

¹ CAPZA (formerly Capzanine) is the commercial name of Atalante SAS, portfolio management company approved on 11/29/2014 by the « Autorité des Marchés Financiers » under GP-04000065.

² €2.7 billion as at 30 June 2019, of which assets advised by Artemid SAS and managed by a third party.

³ The funds of the CAPZA Transition range are managed by the asset management company CAPZA, and advised by CAPZA Transition SAS which has financial investment advisor status (CIF in France), is registered under the Orias under the number 18001601 since the 23/03/2018.

⁴ The funds of the Artemid range are managed by the asset management company CAPZA and advised by Artemid SAS, which is a subsidiary of CAPZA and Amiral Gestion and has financial investment advisor status (CIF in France). Artemid SAS is registered by the Orias under the number 14003497 since the 05/28/2014.

More information: <https://capza.co> **Twitter :** @capza_co