



ERIC BOMPARD
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Press release

Xavier Marie, Apax Partners and Bpifrance in exclusive negotiations to acquire Groupe Eric Bompard

Paris (France), 5 January 2018 – Xavier Marie, founder of Maisons du Monde, Apax Partners, an investor in fast-growing European mid-market companies, and Bpifrance, via its Cultural and Creative Industries and Paris region funds, announced today that they have entered into exclusive negotiations to acquire Groupe Eric Bompard, the European leader in cashmere. The transaction could be finalised in the first quarter of 2018.

Founded more than 30 years ago, Groupe Eric Bompard has 56 stores, sells 500,000 items per year and is renowned for the quality of its materials. The group has expanded internationally and is now the foremost European retailer of cashmere for women, men and children.

The purchase of the group by Xavier Marie, Apax Partners and Bpifrance would represent a new stage in the development of the brand as the undisputed expert in cashmere. The ambition would be to strengthen the group's international presence and step up the development of online sales.

About Apax Partners

www.apax.fr

@ApaxPartners_FR

Apax Partners is a leading private equity firm in Europe. With 45 years of experience, Apax Partners provides long-term equity financing to build and strengthen world-class companies. Funds managed and advised by Apax Partners exceed €3 billion. These funds invest in fast-growing small and mid-market companies across four sectors of specialisation: TMT, Consumer, Healthcare and Services.

About Bpifrance

www.bpifrance.fr

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Equity investment are operated by Bpifrance Investissement. Bpifrance, a subsidiary of the French state and the Caisse des Dépôts and the entrepreneurs' trusted partner, finances businesses from the seed phase to IPO, through loans, guarantees and equity investments. Bpifrance also provides operational services and strong support for innovation, export, and external growth in partnership with Business France. Bpifrance offers to businesses a large range of financing opportunities at each key step of their development, including offers adapted to regional specificities. With its 48 regional offices (90% of decisions are made locally) Bpifrance represents a strategic tool for economic

competitiveness dedicated to entrepreneurs. Bpifrance acts as a back-up for initiatives driven by the French State and the Regions to tackle 3 goals: contributing to SME's growth, preparing tomorrow's competitiveness and contributing to the development of a positive entrepreneur ecosystem. With Bpifrance, businesses benefit from a powerful, efficient and close representative, to answer all their needs in terms of financing, innovation and investment.

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