

Press release

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**EVERTREE is reinforcing its resources and accelerating the development of its products to control VOC and air pollution**

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**The company has now successfully completed a series of industrial trials and in 2019 will be marketing a first solution to significantly reduce the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOC) in wood-based composite panels.**

**A €15 million increase in capital has boosted its resources and thus accelerate the development of novel solutions for other industries concerned by VOC.**

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**Paris, 13 June 2018** — Two years after its creation and a year after the first innovation center was opened in Venette (Oise) [EVERTREE](#) has successfully completed a series of industrial trials that have fully validated the usefulness of its first solution developed specifically for the wood-based composite panel industry. On the market as from 2019, this solution will be able to significantly reduce the presence of petroleum-based resins in these panels and the pollution linked to the volatile organic compounds (VOC) thus generated.

As the first alternative to the resins used at present, this solution opens the way to a new generation of wood-based composite panels (OSB, MDF/HDF and chipboard). It consists in a resin additive obtained using rapeseed protein, which will be marketed under the [SynerXiD™](#) brand.

This industrial advance has been accompanied by a €15 million increase in capital subscribed by the partners initially involved in setting up the company in June 2016: the [AVRIL Group](#) and [Bpifrance](#), through the [Sociétés de Projets Industriels](#) (SPI) investment fund managed in the context of the French government's [Programme d'Investissements d'Avenir](#) (Investments for the Future program, PIA).

This operation aims to accelerate industrialization of the current solution and enable the development of others based on plant chemistry that could effectively control VOC, the principal cause of indoor air pollution.

Present in a wide variety of everyday products – resins, coatings, paints or even some materials – VOCs are the subject of much attention from both industry and consumers because of their harmful effects on health and the environment. Indeed, according to an American study on air pollution in urban areas that was published on 16 February 2018 in the journal *Science*, 53% of VOC emissions arise from everyday consumer products.

According to Nicolas MASSON, EVERTREE'S CEO: *"This increase in our resources reflects the trust of our partners and subscribers in the potential offered by plant chemistry to control VOCs and improve air quality. As we progress towards commercializing our first industrial solution, we are now ready to accelerate the development of new solutions to address VOCs wherever they occur."*

For Michel BOUCLY, Deputy CEO of the AVRIL Group: *"Vegetable proteins offer numerous options which can respond effectively to many of the environmental and health challenges that are of concern to both industry and consumers. By enhancing our valorization of the protein fraction of rapeseed grain, Avril is fully mobilized to provide practical, innovative and sustainable responses to these challenges. This increase in the resources devoted to the promising growth of Evertree is an important illustration of this commitment, of which we are particularly proud."*

And for Magali JOESSEL, Director of the SPI Fund at Bpifrance: *"We are delighted to have renewed our confidence in Evertree, which has achieved successful completion its series of industrial trials on this solution to air pollution. Funding of a breakthrough innovation of global importance in renewable chemistry is emblematic of Bpifrance's commitment to serving energy and environmental transition and structuring an innovative sector that will create jobs."*

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#### **About Evertree:**

Evertree is a young company that is revolutionizing industrial processes and materials. It all started with a small laboratory where two scientists had the idea of exploring the potential of oilseed and protein meals. Their efforts led them to develop unique and exclusive technologies consolidated around nine families of patents, the first to be exploited being wood-based composite panels. Since then, the company has seen sustained growth driven by a pipeline full of products and patents, acknowledged plant-based solutions and solid financial support. Evertree will very soon be entering a new phase by equipping itself with industrial production capacities for the first range of products for the composite panels industry. The next products to use Evertree technologies could concern other applications related to materials and adhesives, or as structuring agents in cosmetics or rheological modifiers, to mention just a few examples. For more information, go to [www.evertree-technologies.com/fr/](http://www.evertree-technologies.com/fr/)

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#### **About the partners:**

##### **Avril Group**

Set up in 1983 at the initiative of French farmers in order to assure long-term markets for French products, Avril is the industrial and finance actor of the French oilseeds and proteins sectors.

It is present in France and internationally in sectors as diverse as human foods, animal nutrition and expertise, renewable energies and chemistry, through a portfolio of strong brands that are leaders in their markets, such as Diester®, Sanders, Lesieur, Puget, Matines, Bunica, Taous, etc.

In nearly 35 years, the Group has changed in size but its purpose has remained the same: to create sustainable value in the vegetable oils and proteins sector while contributing to better foods for humans and preservation of the planet.

To fulfil its mission, Avril draws strength from its industrial activities organized around plant production and livestock sectors, and from its financial arm which operates through Sofiprotéol, its finance and development company.

In 2017, the Avril Group achieved turnover worth €6.2 billion. It counts 7600 employees working in 21 countries.

For more information: [www.groupeavril.com](http://www.groupeavril.com) | Twitter: [@Avril](https://twitter.com/Avril)

##### **SPI Industrial Projects Company fund**

Managed by Bpifrance on behalf of the French government in the context of the PIA Investments for the Future Program, the purpose of this fund is to enable industrial projects with the best prospects for business and employment to find support for their growth.

It acts as a prudent equity investor in project companies focused on industrialization projects selected for their growth potential, the industry's current position and their contribution to ecological and energy transition. It thus constitutes one of the financial levers of the 'New Industrial France'.

## **Bpifrance**

Bpifrance is the French national investment bank: it finances businesses – at every stage of their development – through loans, guarantees, equity investments and export insurances. Bpifrance also provides extrafinancial services (training, consultancy.) to help entrepreneurs meet their challenges (innovation, export...).

For more information, please visit: [www.bpifrance.fr](http://www.bpifrance.fr) and [presse.bpifrance.fr](http://presse.bpifrance.fr)

Follow us on Twitter: @Bpifrance - @BpifrancePresse

## **The PIA Investments for the Future Program (*Programme d'Investissement d'Avenir*)**

Endowed with funds of €57 billion, the Investments for the Future Program (PIA), which is managed by the Secretariat General for Investment, was set up by the French government to fund innovative and promising investments throughout the country. Six national priorities were thus identified that would enable France to increase its potential for growth and employment:

- Higher education, research and training,
- The valorization of research and its transfer to industry,
- Sustainable development,
- Industry and SME,
- The digital economy,
- Health and biotechnologies.

For more information on PIA, go to: <http://www.gouvernement.fr/secretariat-general-pour-l-investissement-sgpi>, [www.caissedesdepots.fr/activites/investissements-davenir](http://www.caissedesdepots.fr/activites/investissements-davenir) and <http://investissement-avenir.gouvernement.fr/> |

Twitter: @SGPI\_avenir



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