

## **Future French Champions, Momentum Invest and M capital Partners invest in Fitness Park Group alongside its majority shareholder Philippe Herbette**

**Paris, February 26th 2019** – Future French Champions becomes the new anchor shareholders of Fitness Park Group alongside Philippe Herbette, founder of the company, and the management team. Momentum Invest and M capital Partners, historical shareholders, increase their investment in the company.

Created in 1985, Fitness Park is the second largest operator of fitness centers in France with licensed and wholly owned facilities. It offers its members the most up to date fitness equipment at the best possible price. It has 200 employees.

Future French Champion, the partnership between Qatar Investment Authority and Bpifrance, will become the new cornerstone investor of the group. FFC's ambition in this transaction is to support Philippe Herbette's aggressive development plan. Fitness Park group is FFC's seventh investment.

**Phillipe Herbette**, President and majority shareholder of Fitness Park, states « I wish to thank our new partner Future French Champions for their support. I am very happy that the group will be in a position to pursue its strong growth thanks to such prestigious investors. The management team remains committed to offering the best possible fitness experience to the greatest number of people. I also want to thank our historical investors, Momentum Invest et M Capital Partners, for their renewed confidence in our project ».

**Marc Auberger et Antoine Emmanuelli** add « Future French Champions is delighted to have the opportunity to participate in the exciting project led by Philippe Herbette and his team. We are convinced that Fitness Park has the best concept and best management team to reap the full benefit of the strong growth trend of the fitness market in France and in Europe.

**Pierre Le Tanneur and Tristan Parisot**, Momentum Invest, add: "We are truly happy to continue to support Philippe Herbette in the execution of his ambitious development strategy and in building the Fitness Park brand. In two years, the group has doubled its number of branches and profitability. We value the quality of our relationship with Philippe and his management team, who have given a new dimension to this group in a very short time, which enjoys a unique position in the fast-growing and changing low-cost fitness market."

**David Aversenq**, M Capital Partners, add : "We are proud to have been the first investor to back up the company and its CEO Philippe Herbette in 2015 and we are delighted to continue the adventure alongside new investors as prestigious as Future French Champions. The detection of beautiful French gems is part of the DNA of M Capital Partners and Fitness Group is a good example. "

### **About Future French Champions**

Initiated in 2014, Future French Champions is a partnership between Qatar Investment Authority and CDC International Capital:

- Qatar Investment Authority is Qatar's the Sovereign Wealth Fund in charge of investing the country's budget surplus in the global economy in order to maintain next generations' wealth. QIA is a preferred partner for financial investors and other stakeholders;
- 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

### **About Momentum Invest**

"A complementary and experienced team: Momentum Invest is a new player in the Private Equity world, a result of the partnership of a renowned entrepreneur Pierre le Tanneur (former CEO of Eau Ecarlate-Spotless who has successfully completed 5 LBOs) and three Private Equity professionals Tristan Parisot (ex-European Capital, 3i), Alain Cochenet (ex-Pechel) and Arthur Bureau (ex-Bpifrance).

A sectoral approach, dedicated to the services sector: Momentum Invest backs profitable French SMEs with high potential, operating in the most attractive sectors of the services market and generating between €10 and €100 million of revenues. The fund operates in growth capital and buyout transactions as a majority or minority shareholder by investing from €3 million to €15 million.

Supporting management teams in their transformation plan: Momentum Invest aims to give a tangible added-value to the management teams by supporting them in their transformation plan. To this end, the "Momentum Invest Tandem", comprised of an entrepreneur and a Private Equity professional, systematically leverages its double operational and financial skills for the portfolio companies. Momentum Invest also provides management teams with an ecosystem to feed their strategic thoughts and help them implement their growth and transformation plans. »

### **About M Capital Partners**

With 500M€ assets under management and a portfolio of over 170 SMEs, M Capital Partners is a leading Private Equity firm in the French Small-cap market.

We operate in venture and growth capital as well as LBOs and have developed five areas of expertise: Life Science and Healthcare, Digital & Media, Brand & Retail, Smart Industries, and Real Estate. In 2016, our affiliated companies employed over 9000 people and generated more than 2.7 billion euros in turnover.

M Capital Partners has offices in Paris, Toulouse, Marseille, Nice, and Lyon. We have built a team of 40 employees including 22 investment professionals, together with 19 senior advisors that strive to build world-class partnerships with entrepreneurs to help them take their businesses to the next level.

Finally, in 2012 and 2013, M Capital Partners was listed as one of the top 3 French Private Equity firms by Capital Finance (Les Echos). In 2016, M Capital Partners was named 2nd French investor with the most small-cap investments (entreprise value <30M€) concluded according to Private Equity Magazine.

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