

Labco secures €728 million in funding to accelerate European expansion

- **€200 million invested in equity by a consortium of institutional investors led by 3i which includes CIC Finance, TCR Capital and Natixis Investment Partners**
- **€58 million invested in equity by healthcare professionals and Labco managers**
- **€300 million of senior debt secured by Natixis and CIC with a possible extension of €50 million**
- **€120m in senior and junior mezzanine debt provided by ICG**
- **Labco will continue to be majority-owned by healthcare professionals**

23 July 2008 – Labco, the pan-European medical diagnostics network, announces that it has secured a total of €258 million in equity, €300 million in senior debt with a possible extension of €50 million and €120 million in mezzanine financing to fund its growth. The equity investments will allow Labco to strengthen its position in the growing European medical diagnostics market and to offer a wider range of services to patients. Since its creation in 2004, Labco has become the market leader in France, Spain and Portugal and is reinforcing its presence in Germany, Italy and Benelux.

Labco's business model is based on a network of independent healthcare professionals focused on delivering high quality and efficient diagnostic services to patients throughout Europe. This successful strategy has attracted a diversity of funding from a wide range of investors:

- **3i**, a world leader in private equity, is investing €140 million. This new investor's global network and healthcare sector expertise will support Labco's international expansion.
- Existing shareholder **CIC Finance**, alongside with **TCR Capital** and **Natixis Investment Partners**, will contribute €60 million to the share capital increase.
- **Natixis and CIC** acting as mandated lead arrangers and book runners have underwritten €300 million of senior debt facilities, with a possible extension of additional €50 million.
- **ICG** is providing €120 million in senior and junior mezzanine debt

Labco's acquisition strategy will be focused on reinforcing its presence in Germany as well as consolidating its positions in the Iberian Peninsula and France. Labco also plans to accelerate its development in Benelux and Italy and to enter new markets.

Dr Eric Souète, Co-founder and CEO of Labco comments:

"I am delighted with the trust and support of existing shareholders and welcome new partners in this next stage of development of our network. I am also confident that this financing round will open new growth opportunities in view of the current consolidation of the European diagnostics market. We will now be able to extend our network to new countries, to invest in cutting edge technologies and to provide high quality medical services to patients throughout Europe."

Denis Ribon, 3i Partner and Head of Healthcare for Europe comments:

"Labco is a fast-growing, well differentiated, European leader in the medical diagnostics market with a first-class management team. In a consolidating market, the consortium of investors led by 3i has been impressed by Labco's proven commitment to quality and efficiency towards patients and physicians. We are confident in its capacity to achieve outstanding growth in Labco's core international markets."

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Labco is the European leader in medical diagnostics. Labco's network of clinical laboratories has grown since its foundation in France in 2003 to a pan-European presence in Spain, Germany, Italy, Portugal and Belgium in Q2 2008. All of Labco's clinical laboratories are managed by independent healthcare professionals, all being partners of the group using common services to improve quality and efficiency. Labco generated €220 million in sales in 2007 and plans to more than double in size by year end.

www.labco.eu

Figures: Labco is present in **6** countries, where **250** laboratories, managed by **4,000** healthcare collaborators including **350** laboratory doctors, providing diagnostics services to more than **15,000** physicians treating about **8,000,000** patients a year; altogether process about **200,000** tests each day, among a catalogue of more than **2,500**, **60%** in ambulatory care, **40%** in hospital care.

Labco Advisors:

Legal	Bouthier Dederichs Furlotti (Bertrand Dederichs) Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (Antoine Colonna d'Istria, Bertrand Pellet, James Clarke, François Couhadon) Germany: Osborne Clarke (Joachim Breithaupt, Gerd Hoor, Carsten Schneider)
Financial	Atlas Capital (Ricardo Levit, Manuel Cebrián, Milós Esteva) Close Brothers (Phillippe Guezeneq, Thomas Gaucher, François Dieval, Frédéric Meyer)
Accounting	BDO (Jordi Bellobí, Javier Echeverría)
Tax	Mayer Brown (Olivier Parawan)

3i Advisors:

Legal	Weil Gotshal Manges (Jean Beauchataud, Gautier Elies)
Due Diligences	Finance DD: PricewaterhouseCoopers Transaction Services (Philippe Chavane, Vincent Milhau, Benoit Cambournac) Insurance DD: Aon (Nicolas Mason) Social/Tax DD: Landwell (Bernard Borrely, Aurélie Cluzel, Fabien Radisic)
Financial	Valuation/Exit: UBS (Henry Elphick, Vincent Aymé) Wagram CF (Sylvain Cotte, Stéphane Prefol)

Other Advisors:

Legal TCR Capital – Natixis IP – CIC (Equity)	SJ Berwin (Maxence Bloch, Pierre-Louis Sevegrand)
Legal Natixis – CIC (Debt)	Lovells (Olivier Fille-Lambie, Ariane Berthoud)
Legal ICG	Latham and Watkins (Xavier Farde)