

Dutch private equity firm Arcola acquires packaging specialist Straatweg Group

Amsterdam, 13 October 2023 – Arcola, an Amsterdam-based private equity firm that focuses on investing in dynamic growth businesses, has acquired a majority stake in the Dutch Straatweg Group, a manufacturer of specialty plastic components catering to both the industrial packaging industry and general industry. End-markets include, but are not limited to, food, healthcare and sustainable energy. Straatweg operates a manufacturing site in China and recently opened a state-of-the-art production facility in Breukelen, north of Utrecht, to better serve its clients across Asia, Europe and the US.

Benoît Lammens, Arcola's founder, said: "The global flexible packaging industry, valued at approximately USD 150 billion in 2021, is forecast to generate strong revenue growth over the coming years, primarily driven by a market shift towards more specialty packaging in the food and healthcare product segments. The Straatweg Group's activities fit squarely within these high-growth areas. The company is also a leader in sustainability innovation in the industry, which increasingly is becoming a primary determinant of success in the market. Through the smart application of technology, selective acquisitions and by strengthening existing and building new international strategic partnerships, we believe the Straatweg Group is well-positioned to outperform the wider market's growth trajectory."

The often overlooked and hard-to-access SME-sector (businesses with an EBITDA ranging from EUR 0.5 million to EUR 3.0 million) offers private equity investors outsized opportunities by identifying companies who are niche market champions, then leveraging those positions with strong management teams to deliver robust future growth and returns.

Arcola collaborates with experienced entrepreneurs from closely-related industries to its target portfolio companies. Arcola's entrepreneur network offers deep-rooted market insights, extensive personal networks and a willingness to co-invest, creating an alignment of interests with the project's success that adds significant value.

For the Straatweg Group acquisition, Arcola partnered with entrepreneur and investor Marc van der Put, founder and former CEO of 2Connect, the Dutch manufacturer of specialised connectors and cable, bringing his extensive experience in a similar business landscape.

Jaap Sondaar, co-owner of **Straatweg Group**, says: "A decisive factor in our decision to partner with Arcola was the unique combination of private equity growth know-how with the proven entrepreneurial business-building expertise that co-investor Marc van der Put brings to the table. This represents a real added value for

PRESS RELEASE

us in supporting the Straatweg Group as we continue to build our national and international market presence over the coming years."

Arcola was advised on the transaction by JBLaw (Legal), FTI Bold (Financial), Atlas Fiscalisten (Tax), YES Corporate Finance (Debt advisory).

-ENDS-

About Arcola

Arcola focuses on dynamic growth companies with high-quality revenues and defensible margins in the often overlooked €0.5 - 3.0 million EBITDA market. We first identify and then nurture these promising businesses that demonstrate the potential for substantial expansion to become industry champions. Arcola aims to capitalize on the agility and opportunities presented by this dynamic sector.

At Arcola, we believe private equity can have a positive, transformational impact. Our unique investment approach champions human relationships, ethical responsibility and sustainable growth. We incorporate ESG considerations into our investment decision-making and ownership policies.

<https://www.arcola.eu>

About Straatweg Group

Straatweg Group is a manufacturer of specialty plastic components catering to both the industrial packaging industry and general industry. End-markets include, but are not limited to, food, healthcare and sustainable energy. Straatweg, founded in 2002, operates a manufacturing site in China and recently opened a state-of-the-art production facility in Breukelen, north of Utrecht, to better serve its clients across Asia, Europe and the US.

<https://www.straatweggroup.com/>

Contact

Bellier Communications

Jakob Geerts

jakob.geerts@bellierfinancial.com

+31 6 8342 9715