

ARDIAN

PRESS RELEASE

ARDIAN RAISES €230 MILLION FOR SECOND GROWTH FUND

The new fund is three times the size of the previous generation, attracting in record time a wide range of institutional investors and entrepreneurs

Paris, 12 April 2018: Ardian, a world-leading private investment house, today announces that it has raised €230 million for its latest Growth Equity fund, Ardian Growth Fund II. The size of this new fund, raised in four months, is three times bigger than Fund I (€70M raised in 2014) and confirms Ardian Growth's leading position in the European growth equity market.

The fundraising has generated strong interest from both institutional investors such as the European Investment Fund (FEI) and Bpifrance – which invests on its own account and within the framework of the Investments for the Future Programme via the MultiCap Croissance fund – and as well as from more than 50 leading European entrepreneurs in the digital sector. The strong demand highlights the quality of the team and its track record, combining knowledge of entrepreneurship with deep sector expertise.

As a long-standing player in the market with around €500 million of assets under management, Ardian Growth is a preferred partner for entrepreneurs looking to grow their business. Since 1998, Ardian Growth has supported more than 100 companies in the digital sector (software, internet, etc.), most recently including Bricoprivé and Ivalua in France, Lastminute.com in Italy and T2O in Spain.

Benefitting from Ardian's international presence and its track record in Europe and the U.S., the team takes both minority and majority positions, investing up to €25 million in fast growing and profitable companies that want to accelerate their international development and external growth. Active in France, Italy, Spain and Benelux, the team pursues a pan-European investment strategy.

Laurent Foata, Head of Ardian Growth, said: "This fundraising was completed at a record speed and was heavily over-subscribed, demonstrating the trust given to our team and strategy by both existing and new investors. By welcoming a new group of leading entrepreneurs as investors, we significantly add to our ability of offering a truly differentiated approach to portfolio companies. With the substantial size of the fund, the fundraising strengthens Ardian Growth's positioning as a leading growth catalyst for ambitious entrepreneurs across Europe."

During the last twelve months, Ardian Growth has been particularly active with more than 9 exits, 5 investments and 9 build-ups.

ABOUT ARDIAN

Ardian is a world-leading private investment house with assets of US\$67bn managed or advised in Europe, North America and Asia. The company is majority-owned by its employees. It keeps entrepreneurship at its heart and focuses on delivering excellent investment performance to its global investor base.

Through its commitment to shared outcomes for all stakeholders, Ardian's activities fuel individual, corporate and economic growth around the world.

Holding close its core values of excellence, loyalty and entrepreneurship, Ardian maintains a truly global network, with more than 490 employees working from 13 offices across Europe (Frankfurt, Jersey, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Milan, Paris and Zurich), North America (New York, San Francisco) and Asia (Beijing, Singapore, Tokyo). It manages funds on behalf of about 700 clients through five pillars of investment expertise: Fund of Funds, Direct Funds, Infrastructure, Real Estate and Private Debt.

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