



Press Release

Steadfast Capital, alongside the company's management, has acquired majority stake in proFagus group

Frankfurt am Main, May 27th, 2010. In order to support further growth of the business Steadfast Capital, alongside the company's management, has acquired a majority stake in proFagus group. Individual private investors, who have sold the business, remain committed to proFagus via re-investment. The transaction structure developed by Steadfast Capital allows for the optimal financing of the seasonal working capital requirements as well as of the investments in the expansion of the production capacities. Steadfast Capital managed to win a DC Advisory Partners' sales process over other bidders by giving evidence of professional deliverability, flexible structuring and the build-up of good rapport with management. The financing of the transaction was provided by DZ Bank AG, NIBC Bank N.V. as well as Commerzbank Group (factoring). "We are particularly fascinated by the potential of proFagus' business model and the quality of its management team", explains Clemens Busch, who was in charge of the transaction as Managing Partner of Steadfast Capital. Dr. Markus Geiger, who has coordinated the deal, adds: "Based on the strong market position and the diverse product range there are numerous growth areas – be it organic or by acquisition." The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

ProFagus

ProFagus is a leading European manufacturer of high quality charcoal and briquettes as well as associated BBQ products (e.g. ecological fire lighters). In addition, the company refines and markets industrial by-products in the food and pharmaceutical industry, such as acetic acid and smoke flavours. Operating from its production site in Bodenfelde, Lower Saxony, proFagus sources beech wood as a mix of scrap from saw mills and timber from the surrounding forests, with no tree being felled for proFagus. Approximately 25,000 tons of primarily "A" quality charcoal and briquettes are produced per annum. ProFagus is the only Western European manufacturer using the

environmentally friendly Reichert method, a process that allows the recycling of surplus energy and produces virtually no unusable waste. ProFagus has successfully established a premium brand strategy based on the superior quality of its products. In the next development phase proFagus plans to expand its brand to related products and to broaden its distribution range predominantly in Germany.

Steadfast Capital

Steadfast Capital is an independent private equity investor focusing on medium-size businesses within German speaking Europe and Benelux countries. Steadfast Capital invests in non-public companies providing financial solutions for succession issues and spin-offs from larger groups and also provides capital for growth opportunities. A creative financing solution is tailored for each individual situation, which always also comprises an element of management participation in the equity of the business.

Contact

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