

4 March 2008

Valerio Boccardi appointed as Vice President at Palamon Capital Partners

Palamon Capital Partners, one of Europe's leading mid-market private equity firms, has appointed Valerio Boccardi as a Vice President.

Mr Boccardi joins Palamon from the Italian mid-market private equity fund, Magenta, where he was a Director. Prior to this he spent six years at the Italian office of McKinsey & Co as Engagement Manager. Mr Boccardi graduated from LUISS University in Rome with a BA in Economics, and holds an MBA from Columbia Business School.

Mr Boccardi joins Palamon's London based team, which comprises 15 investment professionals from ten different countries, at a time of significant investment activity. The Firm, with €1.1 billion of equity under management, is currently investing its second Pan-European fund, Palamon European Equity II, L.P.

Daan Knottenbelt, Partner and Member of Palamon Capital Partner's Operating Committee, commented: "With our deal pace increasing alongside our expanding investment team, Valerio joins Palamon at a very exciting time. He will play a key role in strengthening our sourcing and execution capability in Italy, a country where we have been active investors for many years".

Commenting on his appointment, Mr Boccardi said: "I am delighted to be joining such a well regarded firm with a first class investment team. Palamon's thesis-driven, pan-European, growth investment approach is achieving outstanding results. I look forward to the opportunities lying ahead in my new role."

Recent investments made by Palamon include Dress-for-Less, Europe's largest on-line designer fashion outlet, D&D Media Group, one of the leading independent European audiovisual producers and Si Collection SpA, a provider of debt collection services to Italian corporate business.

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Palamon Capital Partners

Palamon Capital Partners, LP is an independent private equity partnership founded in 1999, which is focused on providing equity for European growth services companies. Palamon, as a pan-European investor, originates, executes and manages investments in the UK, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, France, and Germany. The Firm targets investments in companies where it can be the lead private equity provider and where the partnership's experienced principals can provide strategic direction and support to help build equity value.

The Firm manages Palamon European Equity, L.P. and Palamon European Equity II, L.P., capitalised at €1.1 billion, and making up one of the largest pools of private equity capital dedicated to growth investment opportunities in Europe's mid market arena. Investors in Palamon funds are based mainly in the US and Europe and are among the most significant investment institutions in the world.

For more information on Palamon refer to www.palamon.com