

Goes, 6 January 2025

## Press Release

**VAM WaterTech, Dutch leading agri-food water purification and recycling solutions, is acquired by its Managing Director Hans Blaak together with the Luxembourg Environmental Private Equity firm ORAXYS and one of the French leading Private Capital firms, SWEN Capital Partners, to accelerate international growth.**

ORAXYS, the European Private Equity firm expert in accelerating growth of profitable SMEs that market environment friendly products and services, as lead investor, and SWEN Capital Partners, one of the leading French private markets investment firm, together with Hans Blaak, Managing Director of VAM WaterTech, acquire VAM WaterTech and several subsidiaries.

Founded in 1995 in Zeeland in the Netherlands by Eduard van Antwerpen who exits the company through this transaction, VAM WaterTech designs, develops and manufactures modular water purification and recycling equipment. The systems are customized to the specific needs of Worldwide clients such as agri-food industrial processors, packers and retailers.

VAM WaterTech's solutions are recognized for their efficiency, reliability and easiness to use. They enable operations of closed-cycle processes to reduce by up to 95% the use of clean water, especially to wash and rinse vegetables. As such, the company partners with the agri-food industry players to provide food safety to the consumers. Moreover, the company provides strong solutions to save water in a context of increasing water scarcity.

The investment from ORAXYS and SWEN Capital Partners aims at accelerating growth in Europe, Northern America and Asia and at developing new solutions to address additional varieties of vegetable crops.

**Hans Blaak, Managing Director of VAM WaterTech:** « I am very grateful to the VAM WaterTech Team for the achievements in the most recent years. The technological levels reached make us unique and unmatched in our promise to our clients for supplying the most reliable, effective and cost-efficient solutions for both minimizing water consumption and maximizing food safety. With the support of ORAXYS and SWEN we look forward to our further organizational, technological and commercial development. We will further develop and strengthen our support to the international food processing and fresh packing industry to realize their ESG-goals. »

**Mimi Lamote, ORAXYS Industrial Team Partner:** « We thank Hans Blaak and the whole operational team of VAM WaterTech for their trust. We were immediately convinced by the strong expertise of VAM WaterTech's team and we look forward to working together on the international growth.

VAM WaterTech's contribution to a more sustainable use of the water resource in the agri-food industry is perfectly aligned with our strategy to develop European champions with a positive environmental impact. VAM WaterTech is the 5<sup>th</sup> investment of our fund ORAXYS Environment 2. »

**Romain Pesme, SWEN Investment team:** « We are delighted to support the VAM WaterTech/Franken group in its continued development, and would like to thank Hans Blaak and his team for their confidence throughout the process.

Given the increasing scarcity of water resources, the issue of water reuse is crucial, and we were immediately convinced by the expertise of the VAM WaterTech teams in this field.

This investment is fully aligned with the strategy of our European co-investment fund, SWEN RISE, by actively supporting sustainable companies and contributing to a better future, by promoting long-term environmental and social value. »

Advisors on the transaction are Rembrandt, Squire Patton Boggs, 9Corporate, Fieldfisher, I-Care, Germain Maureau and Deloitte.

### **About VAM WaterTech**

VAM WaterTech is a Dutch SME developing, producing and servicing water re-use technology for the agri-food sector. The technology enables our clients, fruit and vegetable processors and fresh packers, to fully re-use their washing water in the same process. After a successful growth in the Benelux countries and demanding German and Swiss market, VAM WaterTech is now further expanding in both Europe as North America.

<https://www.vam-watertech.com/>

### **About ORAXYS**

ORAXYS is a European Private Equity firm financing buyout transactions and accelerating expansion. Since 2008, ORAXYS is specialized in profitable SMEs that market products or services with a positive contribution to the environment, public health or resource efficiency. ORAXYS operates with a financial and industrial team.

<https://oraxys.com/>

### **About SWEN Capital Partners**

SWEN Capital Partners is a leading player in sustainable investment in private equity, infrastructure and mezzanine debt, with over €8.3 billion\* in assets under management and advisory, and employs over 120 people. The management company, owned by the Ofi Invest group (whose main shareholders are entities in the Aéma group: Macif, Abeille Assurances holding, Aésio Mutuelle), Crédit Mutuel Arkéa, and SWEN Managers (a holding company with around fifty employees), has always placed sustainable finance at the heart of its approach and offers its customers innovative and responsible investment solutions. SWEN CP became a Mission Company in October 2023, a new step marking a decisive orientation of its organisation in the service of Nature.

\* amount of cumulative commitments

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