



Paris, 8 March 2016

## Talan banks on Capzanine to boost its development



**Capzanine announces it has acquired a stake in Talan, a consultancy firm specialising in information systems.**

The Fund has acquired interests as minority reference shareholder. Management will remain the principal shareholder.

Created in 2002, Talan is a Major French player in the Business and IT Consultancy world (operations consulting, project management support and the integration of new technologies) spread across four sectors: Finance & Insurance, Energy & Public Service, Transport & Logistics and Telecommunications & Media. Based in Paris, Talan also has subsidiaries in London, Geneva, Luxembourg, New York, Chicago, Hong Kong, Montreal and Tunisia. In 2015, the group's personnel was 1,500-strong, while it posted sales of almost €150m.

Since its creation, Talan has grown rapidly thanks to sustained organic growth and a dynamic acquisitions policy lead by its three founders, including its Chairman, Mehdi Houas. In 2015, three new acquisitions were made: Stepinfo (€8m in sales), Solog (€16m in sales) and the EXL Group (€35m in sales). The leading French player in its area of expertise, the group wants to maintain its policy of acquisitions and integration.

Maxence Radix, Capzanine's Managing Partner, stated, *"The experience and quality of the management team, which is dynamic and entrepreneurial-minded, were determining factors in our investment choice. Furthermore, the corporate digitisation market on which Talan operates offers enormous development potential. We wish to support the group's growth momentum and its build-up strategy to allow it to consolidate its leadership position."*

Talan's Chairman Mehdi Houas, concluded, *"We have clearly demonstrated to our consultants and clients our goal of being the leader in agile transformation. For this, we will need to accelerate our development while maintaining double-digit profitability. We were therefore looking for a fund capable of supporting us during this important phase in our history over the next five years by backing our project and respecting our entrepreneurial values. Capzanine met all those conditions: we brought them on board in a short time frame."*

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## PARTICIPANTS

**Transaction arranger and investor:** Capzantine (David Hoppenot, Maxence Radix, Sabine Barral)

**Seller:** Management (Mehdi Houas, Philippe Cassoulat, Eric Benamou, Jean-Luc Blache, Dominique Masutti)

**Seller's advisor:** Financière Cambon (David Salabi, Jonathan Journo)

**Seller's legal advisor:** Fieldfisher (Pascal Squercioni, Natalia Toribio)

**Buyer's legal advisor and legal and fiscal due diligence:** Gowling WLG (Jérôme Patenotte, Aline Picaut, Sophie Mesnier Teissedre)

**Financial due diligence:** ACA Nexia (Hervé Krissi, Thierry Guelfi)

**Strategic audit:** Neovian (Patrick Richer, Guillaume Rambaud)

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### About Capzantine

Founded in 2004, Capzantine is an independent investment fund and a pioneer in combined equity and private debt investments. It supports businesses in their quest for growth, providing financial and industrial expertise to help them successfully achieve their development and transfer phases. Depending on the circumstances, Capzantine invests as a majority or minority shareholder and/or as private debt provider in small and mid-cap companies with an enterprise value of 20 million to 400 million euros. Based in Paris and run by its partners, Capzantine currently has € 1.1 billion in assets under management. Its portfolio includes companies such as Finance Active, Francheville, Cap Vert, Cérélia, Opteven, Neoxam, Le Béliet... For further information, consult: [www.capzantine.com](http://www.capzantine.com)