



Paris, 2 May 2016

## Capzanine plays a part in the association between Soccer Park and Le Five



**The Capzanine fund invests in Soccer Park, France's third largest five-a-side football pitch operator, to support it in its association with Le Five FC, the second biggest player in the market. Capzanine brings equity and quasi-equity funding into the transaction (equity and mezzanine) and becomes the majority shareholder in the new group alongside the management team and certain long-standing shareholders.**

Soccer Park was founded in 2010 by Guillaume Debelmas and Tony Jalinier and has seen rapid growth, mainly in provincial France. The company, which by the end of the year will be operating 16 centres, has become the third largest network of five-a-side football facilities in France. It also recently diversified into Padel tennis, a fun and easy-to-play racket sport. Soccer Park is positioned as a high quality brand and has a strong identity and an innovative marketing and digital strategy.

Le Five FC was founded in 2008 by Joseph Vieville. It has developed its network via a historical presence in the Ile de France region and strong expansion across provincial France driven by franchising. It also recently moved into the Spanish market. Le Five FC sets the standard for five-a-side football in France and currently has a total of 26 complexes. Le Five FC operates the only five-a-side football centre in central Paris (at Porte de la Chapelle), which is also Europe's largest indoor centre.

Generating annual sales of some €12m, the newly-formed business will consolidate the advantages brought by the two networks while developing an ambitious growth plan for the coming years, which will include the opening of new centres as well as the acquisition of independent operators. Both the Soccer Park and Le Five FC brand names will continue to live alongside one another and to promote the strong values they share, namely fair play, respect and constant innovation.

**Benoît Choppin, Associate Director of Capzanine, said:**

*"The quality of the Soccer Park and Le Five teams, and their obvious determination from the outset to build this association and growth plan together, was a key factor in our decision to support them."*

**Tony Jalinier & Guillaume Debelmas, Co-Founders of Soccer Park, said:**

*"Capzanine's investment in the Soccer Park Le Five group is a huge vote of confidence in our profitable business model and will enable us to roll it out faster and to strengthen our competitive edge in delivering innovation and a 360-degree customer experience."*

**Joseph Viéville, Founder of Le Five, said:**

*"This transaction will rapidly give us the means to fund plans for new centres and to pull ahead of the market in a highly competitive environment, with our sights firmly set on becoming the number one operator."*

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Transaction arranger and investor:** Capzanine (Benoit Choppin, Clément Colin)

**Vendors:** LOV Group (Philippe Magnani)

**Legal advice (Founders of Soccer Park and of Le Five):** LL Berg (Olivier Abergel, Gaëlle Quillivic, Julie Messerig)

**Legal advice (Buyer):** PGA (Raphaël Piotraut, Suzanne de Carvalho)

**Legal advice LOV Group:** VGG Associés (Pascale Girard)

**Legal and Tax Due Diligence:** PGA (Raphaël Piotraut, Suzanne de Carvalho) Aquila (Jean Goncalves)

**Financial Due Diligence:** Advance Capital (Arnaud Vergnole, Thibault Fleury)

**Strategic Audit:** Simple & New (Emmanuel Nizard)

**Financial instrument valuation:** NG Finance (Brice Palayer)

**About Capzanine**

Founded in 2004, Capzanine 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, Capzanine 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, Capzanine currently has € 1.1 billion in assets under management. Its portfolio includes companies such as Orsys, Acteon, Talan, Finance Active, Francheville, Cap Vert, Cérélia, Opteven ,... For further information, consult: [www.capzanine.com](http://www.capzanine.com)