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Press release

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goetzpartners Corporate Finance advises Editis on the sale of Groupe De Boeck to Ergon Capital Partners

Editis, the second-largest publishing group in France, completed today the sale of Groupe De Boeck, a leading Belgian publisher of educational and legal books in French and Dutch, to Ergon Capital Partners, a private equity fund sponsored by Groupe Bruxelles Lambert (GBL).

goetzpartners Corporate Finance acted as sole financial advisor to Editis in this transaction, which will enable the Group to concentrate its resources on the development of its strategic activities.

Alain Kouck, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Editis Group, said: « *The disposal of Groupe De Boeck provides Editis with the opportunity to further pursue the development of its core segments (Literature, Education, Reference and Services) in the digital era. I am sure that Groupe De Boeck, after a very successful period within Editis, will find with Ergon great growth and development perspectives.* »

Ian Gallienne, Partner at Ergon, indicated that: « *Ergon is delighted about the acquisition of Groupe De Boeck. We are convinced that the talent and experience of the management of Groupe De Boeck, together with the resources of our team, will help support the ambitious development plans of the company and reinforce its position as a leader on the Belgian market for school, legal and professional publications.* »

Hugues Archambault, Director of goetzpartners Corporate Finance France, explains: « *We are very pleased to have, once again, assisted Editis, a long-standing client, during a strategic move. This transaction confirms our expertise in the field of publishing and our ability to lead confidential and competitive sale processes with the most relevant counterparties for our clients.* »

About Ergon

Ergon is a private equity fund specialised in "Mid-Cap" transactions. Sponsored by Groupe Bruxelles Lambert (GBL), Ergon has EUR 775 million under management and invests between EUR 20 and EUR 75 million in companies primarily located in France, Benelux, Italy, Spain and Switzerland. Ergon's investment policy follows GBL's industrial vision and long-term management of companies.

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About Editis

A subsidiary of Grupo Planeta, Editis is the second-largest French publishing group. With more than 40 brands, Editis holds leading positions in Literature, Education and Reference publishing. It is also a major player in the field of publishing services (sales and distribution) via its subsidiary Interforum. Editis recorded a turnover of EUR 753 million in 2010.

About Groupe De Boeck

Groupe De Boeck Group is a leading Belgian publishing house specializing in school, university and legal books in French and Dutch. Founded in 1883 and based in Louvain-la-Neuve, the group currently employs around 224 people over 6 sites in Belgium, Luxembourg and France. Over the past 130 years, the group grew not only organically but also via a number of targeted acquisitions such as Larcier (1991), Duculot (1994), De Sikkel and Standaard Uitgeverij's educational business (2000), Estem (2002) and the legal publishing activities of Bruylant (2011). Groupe De Boeck had been part of the Editis Group since 2007.

About goetzpartners

goetzpartners is a leading independent European advisory firm that combines corporate finance and management consulting services under one roof. The Group is represented with offices in Munich, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Moscow, Paris, Prague and Zurich, and maintains international cooperation ventures.

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