

Saturne Technology opens its capital to accelerate its growth internationally and become a European leader in laser metal additive manufacturing.

Saturne Technology, a major European player on the market of laser fusion metal additive manufacturing (SLM) for leading industrial companies (i.e: Goodyear, Stryker, Safran group, Rotarex, Alstom Transport) has secured a capital increase of 3.7 million euros provided by Akiles, Eurefi, Innovation Fund and the European Fund for Materials (Demeter) which already joined the venture in 2016.

This operation is additional to 2.7 million euros of grants awarded to Saturne Technology by the Économie du Grand-Duché of Luxembourg to support their significant investment in state-of-the-art technology over the next 3 years. The company also has the support of local banking partners such as the SNCI.

Saturne Technology is an SME with a team of 19 people that was founded in 2001 by its current Director, Walter GRZYMLAS. The Luxembourg based company operates on an international level and has developed sophisticated know-how in laser techniques for cutting, drilling, welding and laser cladding. It has gained a specialized focus on laser metal additive manufacturing by securing several production partnerships. Saturne Technology operates in several market sectors, including cutting edge industry, aeronautics, aerospace, the transport industry and the medical sector. Over the last ten years, the company has gained reputed know-how and progressed strongly on the market of laser metal additive manufacturing.

The new funds raised will enable Saturne Technology to continue its investment and to accelerate, to both grow its capacity and to integrate a range of services pre and post additive manufacturing. Indeed, the company has a solid order book for the coming years. Saturne Technology has certified a number of parts which will go into production in 2022 and its needs in terms of capacity are set to grow in the short, medium and long term. Furthermore, the funds raised will help to strengthen the current team with the foreseen recruitment of a Production Director and a Sales Executive for large accounts, and also, to continue ambitious investment in R&D, with the aim to maintain the head start secured in terms of know-how, optimization and parts finishing.

Following the development phase, the company's goal is to be producing 15 tons of ready-to-use parts through additive manufacturing by 2024.



«We are constantly being solicited for new parts and by new customers. Since the end of 2020, projects have accelerated, and our portfolio of multi-year strategic projects has grown significantly. We now need to get organized so that we can cater to these markets. This fund raising round provides us with significant means to move into a new dimension, grow stronger and become a renowned player as a mass producer in metal additive

manufacturing.

The complementary nature of the funds participating to the operation will be a real advantage for the company as it experiences strong growth in the coming years. »

Walter Grzymalas, Founder and Managing Director of Saturne Technology.

Investment bank NATUREO FINANCE (Romain Merceret et Ludovic Froment) and the KAUFHOLD & REVEILLAUD (Matthieu Groetzing et Houssein Ouled Larabi) firm supported the company throughout this financing operation. Within this context, Christophe Rouvière, President of NATUREO FINANCE states: ***“This structuring operation in Saturne Technology’s history will serve to underpin its industrial and commercial development as it continues on towards its objective of becoming a European leader in metal additive manufacturing. The arrival of new long term financial partners with a strong entrepreneurial and industrial DNA in Saturne’s capital will strengthen the company governance and open a lot of doors for commercial opportunities and partnerships in the European industrial sector.”***

DEAMETER

Guillaume Laffineur, Partner at Demeter

« Saturne Technology is a kind of industrial start-up. We are a far cry from the « techno push » approach. Acquired know-how can not be patented, but customer satisfaction reflects the head start the company has got in terms of integration and production quality. Saturne Technology's value proposition is a real game changer for its customers that can reach their objectives in terms of lighter parts, improved functionality and reduced production delays... It is truly satisfying to see the continuation of high value-added mass production in Europe.

The European Fund for Materials managed by Demeter is a long term investor at Saturne Technology. We have helped them to build this value chain and to structure the company. The time has come to accelerate and rise to the challenge. We are happy to renew our commitment and trust in this team.»

Akiles

Thierry François, Partner at Akiles

« We are thrilled to be at the table and to enable Saturne Technology to strengthen its positioning as the European leader in the metal additive manufacturing market. The recent referrals Saturne Technology has received from numerous iconic actors will strengthen and accelerate its growth. »



Xavier Dethier, Managing Director at Eurefi

« This operation is an inspiring cocktail made up of a passionate Director and a diversified pool of investors including different personalities who have a common vision and common objectives. We are impressed by the work done to date and the potential of Saturne Technology. We are convinced the company has the teams and they will soon have the new machines that will allow them to hit their goals for all stakeholders involved.»



Jacques Maigné, Innovation Fund

« Innovation Fund is delighted to be a contributor through its investment to the design and manufacturing of highly technical parts that will sustainably revolutionize daily life for all: transport, aerospace, health ...

A deciding factor for us to join this fantastic venture was the trust we place in the team and its management. »

About Saturne Technology

Saturne Technology is an SME with a team of 19 which was founded in 2001 by its current Director Walter GRZYMLAS. The Luxembourg based company developed cutting edge know-how around techniques for cutting, drilling, welding and laser cladding. It has gained a specialized focus on laser metal additive manufacturing by securing several production partnerships. Saturne Technology offers its customers an integrated approach to the value chain including: the design, redesign or optimization of parts that have been manufactured using conventional methods, the mass production of parts using laser metal printing and finishing operations (corrections, buffering, thermal treatment). Saturne Technology also carries out all checks of its powders and parts via 3 analysis laboratories which are integral to the company.

About DEMETER INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Demeter IM is a major European investment actor in the energy transition and ecology sectors. Its investment funds of between 1 and 30 million euros are allocated to support companies in these sectors at all stages of their development: innovative start-ups, SMEs and midcaps with strong growth and infrastructure projects. The Demeter IM team is composed of 37 people based in Paris, Lyon, Bordeaux, Grenoble, Metz, Madrid and Düsseldorf. It manages 1 billion euros and has carried out more than 180 investments since 2005. The Demeter 6 seed fund, a LIXO investor, was raised with the support of the national seed fund - Fonds National d'Amorçage (FNA) managed by Bpifrance Investment within the scope of the future investment programme - Programme d'Investissement d'Avenir (PIA). For more information, visit the website: www.demeter-im.com .

About AKILES

Akiles is a Belgian « evergreen » investment fund which was founded in 2019 by Christophe Rousseaux with the assistance of capital investment professionals. With a rich experience as the founder and CEO of Immoweb, he created Akiles to support high performing managers in the development of their companies over the long term. Akiles concentrates its « Growth Capital » investments in companies which show promising growth potential and solid competitive advantages. For more information, visit the website: www.akiles.be.

About EUREFI

Eurefi is a cross-border « evergreen » fund operating under French law with an entrepreneurial approach. Its shareholders are mainly Belgian, French and Luxembourg institutional investors. Eurefi has been acting for the past 30 years to support SMEs with strategic projects in the French Grand Est, Wallonia and the Grand-Duché of Luxembourg cross-border regions. Since its launch, EUREFI has accompanied more than one hundred companies / directors on their national / international projects. For further information, send us an email: info@eurefi.eu or visit our website: www.eurefi.eu.

About the Innovation Fund

Innovation Fund is an investment fund which mainly invests in early-stage start-ups in the chemistry and life-science sectors.

The fund was created in 2015 under the initiative of Innovation Circle and raised 35 million euros through the sector's large companies, universities and Belgian investment funds. Its ambition is to stimulate innovation and create quality jobs in Belgium and neighboring regions. Its industrial shareholders provide a unique source of expertise and support to the companies in its portfolio.

Innovation Fund has made 35 investments to date, 6 of which have been resold.

<http://www.innovationfund.eu/>



Press Release

Luxembourg, march 11th 2022

About NATUREO FINANCE

Natureo Finance was founded in 2008. It is an independent advisory firm for mergers & acquisitions and fundraising specialized in the energy transition and ecology sectors. NATUREO FINANCE is on a mission to bring innovation technology companies the industrial, sectorial and financial expertise that are required to face the challenge of growth in an international environment. Our three-tier expertise is renowned in the fields of renewable infrastructures and the industrial arena, particularly in the mobility, energy storage and hydrogen production sectors.

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