



C-H-Reynolds and Forvis Mazars France advise Blanchon Group in its international growth with the acquisition of Dr Schutz in Germany

December 2024: Blanchon Group, a portfolio company of IK Partners and Abenex Capital specialized in protective and decoration coatings for the home improvement market, has acquired Dr Schutz, a German renowned player in the flooring care and renovation segment. Dr Schutz will continue to operate as an independent company under the umbrella of Blanchon Group. Dr Karl-Michael Schutz remains fully involved in the business and will take over the overall responsibility for Germany and the vinyl floor renovation business segment. A joint deal team of C-H-R-CF and Forvis Mazars M&A team in France successfully advised Blanchon Group on this transaction.

This strategic acquisition marks a new stage in the Group's international development as Guillaume Clément, President and CEO of Blanchon Group, comments: "This acquisition is a significant milestone in Blanchon's almost 200-year history. Through this acquisition, Germany, the largest flooring market in Europe, will become one of our most important markets alongside France. A strong team of professionals led by Dr Karl-Michael Schutz are joining us and will ensure our company's continued development for years to come. The acquisition of Dr Schutz will enable us to provide our customers with a full product range in the flooring segment, including specialty systems for heavy renovation and a full range of wood and vinyl care products. Step by step, we are building a truly international company dedicated to indoor and outdoor surface care. Dr Schutz is a perfect match"

Dr Karl-Michael Schutz, co-owner of Dr Schutz, also shares this optimism and enthusiasm: "We are very pleased to join Blanchon Group. Our motto 'We care about floors' fits perfectly with Blanchon's ethos and we share the same DNA and values. Benefitting from its strong reputation in Europe as well as its solid R&D expertise, the Group has an offering that is highly complementary to Dr Schutz's technical product range and value proposition. "

With this transaction, Forvis Mazars French M&A team and C-H-Reynolds have once again demonstrated their joint expertise in the painting and coatings segment and in successfully developing and implementing acquisition strategies on an international scale. Building on Forvis Mazars' strong relationship to Blanchon's majority owners IK Partners and Abenex, C-H-Reynolds provided comprehensive advice throughout the process, starting with the development of a tailored acquisition strategy, the identification of suited potential target companies, and their discreet individualized approach. C-H-Reynolds further supported the due diligence process and advised on the structuring and negotiation of the transaction through to closing.

"We would like to thank C-H-Reynolds and Forvis Mazars M&A team for their collaboration and outstanding support and expertise throughout this challenging transaction process. Thanks to their tireless work and sensitivity in dealing with the selling family shareholders, we were able to successfully reach this important milestone. Their professionalism and dedication have been instrumental to this success", comments Caroline Le Hen, Director at IK Partners. Markus Kluge, who led the deal team, adds: "We are pleased to have advised on this landmark transaction, paving Blanchon's way into the German market."

The parties have agreed not to disclose financial details of the transaction.

About Blanchon (www.blanchongroup.com)

Founded in 1832, Blanchon Group is a specialist in protective and decorative coatings for wood and vinyl substrates for indoor and outdoor applications. The Group services more than 8,000 customers globally with its brand 'Syntilor' dedicated to DIY, its brands 'Blanchon', 'Ciranova', 'Rigo', 'Carver' and 'Bigler' for professionals, and 'Blanchon Tech' and 'Ciranova Tech' for flooring manufactures. Blanchon is recognized for its high quality and sustainable product offerings and its local technical expertise in supporting customers. In 2020, Blanchon Group was the first to launch a completely bio-based wood care product offering for professional and end-consumers. It operates through nine subsidiaries located in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Poland, Switzerland, UK, USA and China and employs approximately 450 people.



About Dr Schutz (www.dr-schutz.com)

Dr Schutz Group is a prestigious market player in the flooring care and renovation segment. The company provides specialty polyurethane systems for heavy renovation of vinyl and epoxy floors as well as a comprehensive range of wood and vinyl flooring care products dedicated to professional users. Products are marketed under the internationally well-known brands 'Dr Schutz' and 'eukula'. Established in 1955, Dr Schutz Group employs approximately 90 people and operates in more than 30 countries through own sales subsidiaries and exclusive partners.

About C-H-Reynolds-Corporate Finance AG (www.chrcf.com)

C-H-Reynolds-Corporate Finance AG is one of the leading bank-independent M&A advisory firms in Germany. With its professional senior team drawing on extensive finance and industry-specific expertise of up to three decades, C-H-Reynolds advises family businesses, stock-listed companies, financial investors and family offices on the acquisition and sale of companies, mergers, succession planning, joint ventures, corporate spin-offs and strategic investments on a national and international level with transaction values between EUR 10 million and EUR 150 million.

About Forvis Mazars (www.forvismazars.com)

Forvis Mazars Group SC is an independent member of Forvis Mazars Global, a leading professional services network. Operating as an internationally integrated partnership in over 100 countries and territories, Forvis Mazars Group specialises in audit, tax and advisory services. The partnership draws on the expertise and cultural understanding of over 35,000 professionals across the globe to assist clients of all sizes at every stage in their development.

The M&A activity comprises c. 350 experts in over 30 countries around the world, all focused on the same "small & mid-caps" segment. With c. 20 persons, the French Forvis Mazars M&A team advises and assists large groups, SMEs, entrepreneurs and investors in their transactions (sales, fund raising, external growth). Forvis Mazars is a recognised player in M&A in the smidcap segment and provides its clients with experienced professionals and strong sectoral expertise.

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