

Blättchen & Partner

CORPORATE FINANCE ADVISORS

Press Release

November 10th, 2017

Blättchen & Partner advises the management of Stark Group on the sale to Lone Star Funds

Ferguson plc has sold Stark Group, its Nordics building materials distribution business, to an affiliate of Lone Star Funds, a global private equity firm, for €1,025 million on a debt-free and cash-free basis. The transaction is still subject to approval from the relevant competition authorities. Subject to satisfaction of this condition, the firm expect the transaction to complete early in 2018.

In the year ended 31 July 2017, Stark Group generated ongoing revenue of €2,151 million and an ongoing trading profit of €65 million. Gross assets at 31 July 2017 were €1,153 million.

Headquartered in [Theale, United Kingdom](#), Ferguson is a [multinational](#) heating and plumbing distributor with approximately 47,000 employees across 25 countries. On August 1, 2017, the company changed its name from Wolseley to Ferguson, to reflect the United States being the predominant market. The company is listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a constituent of the FTSE 100 Index.

Prof. Dr. Alexander Götz advised the management of Stark Group with regard to its management participation program:

Alongside traditional corporate finance advisory mandates, Alexander Goetz has specialized in providing managers and private equity investors with advice on the design of management equity programs. In addition, listed companies call him in to address compensation issues. He has supported the creation of more than 60 management equity programs and long-term incentive schemes. Numerous publications and speeches on these topics highlight his expertise.

Prof. Dr. Goetz holds degrees in Business Administration (“Diplom-Kaufmann”) and Law (“Rechtsassessor”). He currently holds a professorship for entrepreneurship / finance at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW). Prof. Dr. Goetz has published numerous articles on management buy-outs, executive compensation, enterprise valuation, going private and public takeovers.

Über Blättchen & Partner

Die Blättchen & Partner GmbH zählt mit innovativen Finanzstrategien seit über 30 Jahren zu den führenden Corporate Finance-Experten in Deutschland. Die Münchner Gesellschaft ist spezialisiert auf die Beratung bei Managementbeteiligungsprogrammen sowie Börsengängen, Anleihe- und Schuld-schein-Emissionen, Unternehmensbeteiligungen und M&A-Transaktionen. Auf die Finanzierungsstruktur der Kunden zugeschnittene Lösungen im strategischen Investor Relations komplettieren das Angebot. Mehr als 500 Transaktionen sind ein Beleg für die ausgewiesene Expertise der Gesellschaft. Das gewachsene interdisziplinäre Kompetenznetzwerk, die hohe Kundenzufriedenheit und die Vielzahl an Veröffentlichungen zu wichtigen Corporate Finance-Themen spiegeln die anerkannte Reputation der Blättchen & Partner GmbH wider.

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