

# Astorg enters into exclusive negotiations to invest in Lebronze alloys in partnership with its controlling family and management team

Luxembourg /Paris/London, 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 – **Astorg, a leading Pan-European private equity firm,** is pleased to announce that it enters into exclusive negotiations to acquire a majority stake in Lebronze alloys ("LBA" or "the Company"), a global leader in the Advanced materials space, in partnership with Michel Dumont, who would remain a significant shareholder and Executive Chairman. Through this investment, Astorg would closely collaborate with the management team as they continue to deliver on their strategy and support the acceleration of LBA's growth.

Headquartered in France, LBA offers a wide range of specialty copper alloys, each with specific properties (thermal resistance, ability to withstand frictions, conductivity, etc.) making them critical components in a large variety of systems and end-markets – including Aerospace, Medical devices, Energy, Electronics, Luxury, etc. – for 600+ customers across the world.

The Company, which has over 700 employees across nine locations with main production sites in France and Germany, has experienced strong organic growth benefiting from macro-trends such as the energy transition and digitalization, which are both fueling the long-term need for copper alloys. In addition to its industry-leading alloys expertise and production technology, LBA has also implemented a wide range of ESG initiatives resulting in a Gold rating from Ecovadis, ranking them in the 99th percentile in its industry globally.

LBA's entire leadership team looks forward to this next chapter in close collaboration with Astorg. Together, their ambition would be to catalyst LBA's growth by leveraging its differentiated capabilities to enter into new applications, increase market shares in fast growing geographies like the USA or India and expand downstream the value chain with the roll-out of service centers. The investment would be part of the Astorg VIII portfolio and would represent the eight portfolio company of the fund to date.

**Michel Dumont, Executive Chairman, LBA**, said: "We would be delighted to partner with Astorg as we embark on the next phase of LBA's development. Given Astorg's deep industry expertise and entrepreneurial culture, we are confident they would be the right partner for us as we deliver on our proven strategy and seek new growth opportunities. With Astorg by our side, our collective ambition would be to pursue our growth while continuing to provide mission critical products and services to our customers."

**Nicolas Marien, Partner, Astorg**, commented: "As a global leader in a niche industrials sector with a highly specialized offering and a talented team, LBA fits very well with Astorg's investment approach. This transaction would be the result of Astorg's sourcing efforts in the Advanced materials space, a priority sub-segment within our strategy in Industrials, that led to active bilateral discussions with Michel and his team over the past 9 months."

Paul Arhanchiague, Managing Director, Astorg, added: "This continuous dialogue has created a shared alignment on LBA's strategic roadmap, and we look forward to collaborating closely with Michel and his management team to accelerate the firm's expansion and further strengthen its leading position in the industry."

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### End

Financial terms were not disclosed. Definitive agreements for the acquisition would be entered into after information and consultation with employee representative bodies. The transaction would be subject to customary regulatory approvals and would be expected to close in the coming months.

Astorg was advised by White & Case (Legal), BCG (Commercial), A&M (Operational & Financial), PWC (Tax), Squire Patton Boggs (Legal DD), Kirkland & Ellis (Antitrust), ERM (ESG), S-RM (Cybersecurity) and Willis Tower Watson (Insurance). LBA was advised by Rothschild (M&A), Bredin Prat (Legal) and PWC (Financial).

## **About Astorg**

Astorg is a leading pan-European private equity firm with over €24 billion of assets under management. Astorg works with entrepreneurs and management teams to acquire market leading global companies headquartered in Europe or the US, providing them with the strategic guidance, governance and capital they need to achieve their growth goals. Enjoying a distinct entrepreneurial culture, a long-term shareholder perspective and a lean decision-making body, Astorg has valuable industry expertise in healthcare, software, technology, business services and technology-based industrial companies. Headquartered in Luxembourg, Astorg has offices in London, Paris, New York, Frankfurt, and Milan.

For more information about Astorg: <a href="https://www.astorg.com">www.astorg.com</a> | Follow Astorg on <a href="https://www.astorg.com">LinkedIn</a>

## **About Lebronze alloys**

Lebronze alloys is a leading industrial Group specializing in the production of semi-finished and finished products in technical high-performance copper and nickel alloys. For over 80 years, the group has been investing sustainably in innovation to meet their customers' evolving functional needs and reduce the environmental footprint of their solutions.

For more information about Lebronze alloys: <a href="https://www.lebronze-alloys.com">https://www.lebronze-alloys.com</a> | Follow Lebronze alloys on <a href="https://www.lebronze-alloys.com">LinkedIn</a>

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