

#### [UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE OFFICIAL FRENCH PRESS RELEASE]

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## Referencia International Partners acquires a majority stake in the PARALLELE shoe brand

Referencia International Partners announces that it has reached an agreement with the Faure family whereby it has become a 55% shareholder in PARALLELE Diffusion. PARALLELE Diffusion manages the production and distribution of French women's shoe brand PARALLELE. This transaction covers all industrial activities (including the production site in Rochechouart), all rights to the PARALLELE brand and the PARALLELE distribution and retail network.

This agreement is effected through a share capital increase and Referencia will be investing together with a group of experienced investors. Through this partnership, PARALLELE strengthens both its financial base and its management capacity in order to pursue its development and its long-term growth prospects.

PARALLELE is one of the most renowned French brand for its know-how in shoe-making. Launched in 1985, the PARALLEL brand has become a reference in high-end women's shoe and has built its reputation on the quality of its craftsmanship and the creativity of its design. PARALLELE has a significant presence in the French market with a network of 14 own and franchise stores.

André Bruère, a partner of Referencia International Partners with over 20 years experience in the textile and shoe industries, will join Alain Faure on the management board of PARALLELE.

Speaking on the importance of this transaction for PARALLELE and Referencia International Partners :

André Bruère "PARALLELE represents a tremendous opportunity for global growth as it represents the best of French craftsmanship and style."

Alain Faure "The "made in France" label is increasingly appealing to a new international clientele, in particular in Asia, seeking an exclusive product in our high quality shoes. Referencia International Partners will allow us to enhance the image, positioning and distribution of the PARALLELE brand throughout France and the rest of the world."

#### About PARALLELE

In 1964, on the heights of the Limousin, Marcel Faure, a passionate entrepreneur and a great lover of women and of his region, created his shoe workshop. The PARALLELE brand was launched in 1985. Alain, Marcel's son, became the company's chief executive in 1991 and helped PARALLELE grow and succeed. With a turnover of around € 6 million and a network of 14 stores in France, PARALLELE cares very much about manufacturing locally and proudly advertises its French traditional craftsmanship.

#### www.parallele.com

#### About Referencia International Partners

Referencia International Partners is an investment company that focuses on making investments in small and medium sized French and Italian companies in the consumer goods area and which exhibit strong potential for growth and development in both European and international markets..

www.referenciaint.com

# PARALLELE

### **Contacts:**

Alain Faure

+33 05 55 03 70 70

a.faure@parallele.com

André Bruère

+33 (0) 6 79 34 63 73

andre.bruere@referenciaint.com

## **Advisors:**

Auditor acquirer : BTI André & Associés (Frédéric Bouleuc)

Legal advisor acquirer: 11.100.34 (Serge Vatine, Marie-Laure Pouplard)

Financial advisor seller : GBA & Associés Corporate Finance (Morgan Trabelsi)

Legal advisor seller : McDermott Will & Emery (Diana Hund)