



SAGARD acquires stake in OLYMPIA Group

Paris, September 6, 2006 – The Olympia Group and Sagard announce today the finalization of an agreement under which Sagard will acquire a stake in Olympia Group. The deal will leave management and existing shareholders with 56% of the shares. Sagard is acquiring the balance of the capital and a majority of the voting rights.

The Olympia Group was founded in 1989 by Marc Landeau and is today one of the leading asset management companies in France specializing in funds of alternative funds. It currently has more than 4 billion euros under management for French and foreign institutional investors, large corporations and independent financial intermediaries. The group employs 80 people and has operations in France, the United States, Great Britain, Switzerland and Hong Kong.

“We are very happy to have Sagard as a new shareholder. Sagard is an atypical private equity fund in that it brings together the large industrial families that, like us, have an approach that is both international and entrepreneurial. Its reputation and name recognition should allow us to increase our penetration of institutional markets both in France and abroad,” commented Marc Landeau, Chairman and CEO of Olympia Capital Management. Mr Landeau will remain at the helm of Olympia through June 2008, when he should be replaced by Matteo Perruccio, currently co-CEO.

“The Olympia Group corresponds perfectly to Sagard’s investment criteria,” says Christopher Spencer, the partner handling the deal for Sagard, *“because it has an ambitious team with a proven track record, thorough knowledge of the market, and strong development potential. We are particularly pleased to participate in the expansion of a group the performances of which make it among the best in its area of expertise. The fact that the founder and staff of the company once again turned to us is very satisfying, and supports our investment strategy.”*

TEAMS INVOLVED IN THE TRANSACTION

Sagard

Christopher Spencer
Rik Battey
Guillaume Bouhours

Advisors to the buyer

Financial advisor:	PwC Corporate Finance
Legal due diligence:	Latham Watkins
Financial due diligence:	PwC Transaction Services
Strategic due diligence:	AT Kearney
Debt:	Noonday
Legal advisor to banks:	Freshfields
Performance Due Diligence:	Allenbridge Group plc

Advisors to the seller

Strategic Advisor:	Maître J.P. Chouchana
Financial advisor:	Rothschild
Legal advisor:	SJ Berwin
Legal advisor to Olympia Group:	Stehlin & Associés

SAGARD

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About the Olympia Group

For more information, see: www.olympiagroup.com

About Sagard

Sagard is a European capital investment specialist. Based in Paris, it chiefly targets middle-market companies with the potential to become leaders in their markets, and operates mainly in France and French-speaking Europe.

It invests alongside ambitious and experienced management teams to help them bring their projects to fruition over the medium and long terms.

Since January 2004, Sagard has acquired AFE, a European specialist in plastics and cast steel; the Moniteur Group, France's leading B2B press group for the construction industry and municipalities; HMY, Europe's leading provider of retail store fixtures and related services; CEPL, the European leader in multi-product automated order preparation, Kiloutou, France's leading equipment rental business for professionals and individuals; Souriau, one of Europe's leading manufacturers of sophisticated connectors dedicated to the industrial, defense and aerospace markets; Régie Linge Développement, one of France's leading specialists in the rental and laundering of flat linens, work wear and hygiene products; and Depolabo, the French leader in pharmaceuticals logistics and distribution. Sagard has also acquired stakes in Vivarte, a major player in the European clothing and footwear distribution market; in Faiveley Transport, a leader in onboard railway systems, acquired with the takeover of Sab Wabco; and in Médi-Partenaires, which specializes in the acquisition and management of private hospitals in France.

For more information, see: www.sagard.com