

Equita acquires Z&J Technologies GmbH from Hochttemperatur Engineering GmbH, a portfolio company of Deutsche Beteiligungs AG

In association with the company's management, Equita Fonds 3, a fund advised by Equita Management GmbH, has acquired Z&J Technologies GmbH, Dueren, from Hochttemperatur Engineering GmbH, a portfolio company owned by Deutsche Beteiligungs AG. Z&J Technologies GmbH is a leading German manufacturer of industrial valves, known under the "Zimmermann & Jansen" and "Raco" brand names. The parties agreed not to disclose the volume of the transaction.

C▪H▪Reynolds▪Corporate Finance AG, a corporate finance advisory firm specialized in transactions with a volume of up to EUR 250m and also internationally represented by the Mergers Alliance group of corporate finance companies, advised Hochttemperatur Engineering GmbH on the sale of the business. With this deal, C▪H▪R▪CF demonstrates its competence for transactions in the sector machinery and industrial engineering.

Equita Management GmbH, a private equity company of the Bad Homburg-based Harald Quandt Group, specializes in complex transactions involving mid-sized companies in the German-speaking countries. This latest transaction is the third investment made by Equita Fonds 3, which was launched in November 2005. Outside financing is to be provided by Deutsche Bank AG.

Z&J Technologies GmbH is a German producer of high-quality large diameter valves used in industrial applications in the iron and steel industry, the petrochemicals industry and the glass industry. In addition to valves and equipment for the iron- and steelmaking and petrochemicals industries, the company's product portfolio also includes machines and components for the glass industry and plant engineering sectors, especially energy recovery turbine units and bell-less top chargers for blast furnaces.

In fiscal year 2005, the company reported sales revenues of some EUR 65m. Z&J has a worldwide workforce of 350, of which some 220 are based at the Dueren plant. At its international facilities, the company has a headcount of 50 in South Africa, 60 in the USA, and 20 in China.

Sell-side advisory was executed by the following individuals:

Financial Advisor:

Philipp v. Hochberg, Partner Machinery and Industrial Engineering C▪H▪R▪CF

Maximilian Wülfing, Senior Analyst C▪H▪R▪CF

Markus Kluge, Senior Analyst C▪H▪R▪CF

Legal Advisor:

Dr. Andreas v. Werder, Partner Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

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Frankfurt/ Main

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