

News Release

- 10th March 2009 -

**FINANCIERE DE CHAMPLAIN ENLARGES ITS
INVESTMENT TYPE OF ASSET
WITH PRIVATE EQUITY FUND AND ITS PARTNER
SIPAREX :**

LAUNCH OF FCPI ISF CHAMPLAIN INNOVATION

Financière de Champlain, an asset management company specialized in the sustainable development universe, launches a FCPI committed to these issues, with one of the main actors in the independent capital investment.

Since its inception, the equities are the core business of Financière de Champlain. What motivates you to move towards the private equity in the current context?

« The core business of Financière de Champlain is foremost the expertise in the sectors linked to the sustainable development universe. The launch of Champlain Innovation enables us to enlarge our expertise to this new type of asset. Since many years, innovative companies, which needed financing and which were attracted by our expertise in the environment sector, regularly contacted us. Some projects presented a significant environmental added value and were trying to find the right financial vehicle to go along with these companies upstream.

The current crisis was a key element in the decision process. Today, the innovative companies suffer from real financing difficulties. When credit crunch arises and investors prefer "flight to liquidity", the Private Equity seems to be the more adequate financing solution.

In the United States as in Europe, the clean techs are the main pillars of the revival economic plans and the creation of jobs. The valorisations are also attractive. The timing appeared to be favourable but we needed the right partner...

With Siparex, we share the same vision of the role of ethical issues : due to the excesses of the markets, Finance should serve the real Economy again. France should fill its gap in the eco-industries in order not to stay apart from the next industrial revolution: a revolution re-axes towards a sustainable growth"

Jean – François DESCAVES – CEO and Director of the Fund Management Team.

ISIN Code : share A FR0010720649

A prudent allocation

The allocation of FCPI Champlain Innovation is divided into two main parts:

L'allocation du FCPI Champlain Innovation se répartit classiquement en 2 poches :

- ➔ 60% minimum invested in the European innovative and eligible Small and Mid Caps
- ➔ 40% maximum invested with a prudent approach in the euro monetary funds

An original partnership

Our complementarities with Siparex go beyond an operational logic (listed/non listed). All along the process, we share our expertise in the sustainable investment universe and Sigefi Ventures, filial of the Siparex group, its expertise in the capital investment with its 30 years experience. The sales team of Financière de Champlain are in charge of the distribution of the fund.

Champlain Innovation : FCPI of the sustainable economy

Our commune objective, with this FCPI, is to demonstrate that innovation can contribute to create a sustainable growth.

As the environment and the human development are the main pillars of a sustainable economy, Financière de Champlain decided to select two prior investment themes: the **safeguarding of the Environment and the health care**. The two investment themes benefit from a good visibility and a significant growth potential.

The increasing number of dependent people defines a sustainable tendency: between 1.3 M to 2 M people in 2015. The evolution of behaviour (bio, preventive medicine, etc.) will lead to new vital needs: innovation is one solution.

Deepness of the investment universe

One of the particularities of the fund lies in its global approach of the sustainable development issues which offer a wide potential of investment :

- ➔ **Regarding health care**, the FCPI Champlain Innovation will invest for example in the ageing of the population (medical equipment, protheses, etc.), the food security, the organic food, the preventive medicine (medical diagnostic, etc.)
- ➔ **Regarding the environment**, apart from the traditional themes (water, renewable energies, waste, etc.) the fund can invest in clean techs such as hybrid motors, sea energy, desalanzation, 2nd generation bio-fuels, energetic efficiency, depollution, green chemical, etc.

Tax exemption : key element of FCPI

Investing in FCPI enables to be less correlated to the ups and downs of the markets. Investors have to keep it for an 8 years period in order to benefit from the tax advantages **in consideration of the capital loss risk** :

- ➔ A reduction of 50% of ISF and of the taxable ISF basis on the quote-part of 60% invested in the eligible Small & Mid caps with the limit of € 20 000 per household
- ➔ A reduction of 25% of IR on the part of the payment which was not exposed to the ISF reduction (around 40%) with the limit of € 6 000 per couple.

«Give meaning to innovation »

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