

## PRESS RELEASE

**Vam Investments launches GROUPE CHAUMONT****The new consolidation platform serving leading Swiss high-end watch brands**

Milan, June 29 - **Vam Investments**, a private equity operator specializing in buyout investments and buy-and-build strategies, today announced the creation of **Groupe Chaumont** following the completion of the acquisition of four Swiss companies – **Efteor, Le Composant, Télôs Watch and Henri Robert** – all highly specialized in the design and manufacture of movements and components for the high-end Swiss watchmaking industry.

**Umberto Macchi di Cellere**, former Managing Director of Bulgari Watches, former Head of Sales at the Bulgari Group and former CEO of Tod's Group, who co-founded the initiative alongside Vam Investments, will lead Groupe Chaumont as Chief Executive Officer. The Group will be headquartered in Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

*«The high-end watchmaking market requires components of absolute quality and precision. Against this backdrop, Groupe Chaumont aims to be an industrial partner capable of bringing together, under a single Swiss banner, the finest savoir-faire – from cases to movements, from cutting tools to the development of complications. Our ambition is to build an industrial group where outstanding companies, deeply rooted in the Swiss Made tradition and led by talented entrepreneurs, can share their experience, expertise and resources. Together, we will build the leading platform dedicated to components for high-end watchmaking», said Umberto Macchi di Cellere, CEO of Groupe Chaumont.*

In an increasingly demanding international watchmaking landscape, maisons require reliable, highly qualified specialist suppliers able to provide outstanding Swiss Made expertise in their respective fields. At the same time, growing demand for high-end and ultra-high-end watches continues to support and drive the broader market.

Built on an entrepreneurial model focused on collaboration and knowledge-sharing, Groupe Chaumont was created with the ambition of becoming the partner of choice for watchmaking maisons, ensuring production capacity, quality, traceability, stability and continuity of the savoir-faire that forms the heritage of Switzerland's manufacturing industry.

The entrepreneurs will reinvest alongside Vam Investments in Groupe Chaumont, becoming shareholders while continuing to lead their respective companies. This ownership structure ensures long-term alignment of interests and allows them to participate directly in the Group's value creation and future growth.

Léonis Tafaj (Efteor and Le Composant), speaking on behalf of Franck Orny, Johnny Girardin (Télôs Watch), and Thibault Richard and Laurent Ryser (Henri Robert), commented:

*«We are proud to be the founding companies of this initiative. We strongly believe in the project and in the value of collaboration. The opportunity to combine our expertise and experience while continuing to provide our customers with the highest standards of quality, reliability and innovation represents an outstanding growth opportunity. We look forward to welcoming new partners to Groupe Chaumont as we continue to expand the range of products and services offered by the Group».*

**Marco Piana, Managing Partner of Vam Investments**, added: *«With Groupe Chaumont, we are entering a strategic sector that is critical to the competitiveness of the Swiss high-end watchmaking industry, partnering with entrepreneurs who share a strong industrial vision and a genuine commitment to building a long-term consolidation platform. The decision by the founding entrepreneurs to reinvest a significant portion of their proceeds and become shareholders in the Group is a defining feature of the transaction and a strong vote of confidence in the project. We believe this is the most effective model to support the growth of each individual company within a collaborative platform, backed by a professional management team capable of enhancing their expertise, preserving their identity and strengthening their unique savoir-faire».*

The Vam Investments team was led by Francesca Rena, Investment Director, and included Antonio Di Paola, Investment Manager, Giorgia Martinelli, Investment Associate, and Filippo Genio, Investment Analyst.

## **Vam Investments**

Vam Investments is a private equity operator specializing in the creation of national champions in fragmented markets through industrial buy-and-build platforms designed to drive growth and sector consolidation. Founded and led by Marco Piana, Vam has been active in Italy for more than 14 years and is distinguished by its entrepreneurial mindset, operational expertise and flexible investment approach. Over the past five years, Vam has invested more than €600 million in mid-market companies, partnering with entrepreneurs and management teams to support growth, generational transitions and industry consolidation.

Vam's current portfolio includes, among other investments, Everest, Gym Nation Italia, Etjca Group and Gruppo Florence.

## **Founding Companies**

### **Efteor**

Founded in 2011 in Bassecourt (Canton of Jura) by Léonis Tafaj, Efteor is a niche supplier to the ultra-luxury watchmaking industry, specializing in limited-series watch cases and clasps crafted from precious metals. The company employs 55 people, the vast majority of whom are highly skilled artisans.

**Le Composant**

Founded in 1988 in Bassecourt (Canton of Jura) by Léonis Tafaj and part of the same group as Efteor, Le Composant specializes in the production of oscillating weights and precious metal bracelets for leading high-end and ultra-high-end watch brands.

**Télôts Watch**

Founded in 2009 in La Chaux-de-Fonds (Canton of Neuchâtel) by Franck Orny and Johnny Girardin, Télôts Watch is a specialized workshop dedicated to the development of watch movements and complications. The company oversees the entire creative process and has established itself as a trusted partner to the ultra-luxury watchmaking industry, producing limited-series timepieces and components.

**Henri Robert**

Based in La Chaux-de-Fonds (Canton of Neuchâtel) since the 1960s and acquired and developed by Laurent Ryser and Thibault Richard during the 2010s, Henri Robert is a precision micromechanics company specializing in the manufacture of high-precision cutting tools used in the production of watch components for the world's leading luxury watch brands.

**For further information:**

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