



LEOSPHERE

**LEOSPHERE : MAJOR EQUITY RAISE TO BOOST GLOBAL EXPANSION IN THE WIND
AND AIR TRAFIC INDUSTRY**

Paris, 1 February 2013

Leosphere, an established and recognized global leader in the laser radar remote sensors market (LIDAR), has finalized its first institutional fund raising. The first part of a total fund raising of €20 million was closed with Oraxys, a leading European cleantech private equity firm for an investment exceeding €10 million. The second part of this transaction will be completed in 2013.

Since inception in 2004 and with less than €1 million seed capital, Leosphere has transformed the LIDAR technology into turnkey, real-time diagnostic systems, expanding profitably at a very rapid pace on each continent.

The wind industry has been a key market catalyst for LIDARs with increasing acceptance by the wind power community which is looking for bankable, accurate and rapid wind measurements solutions. Further potential in the wind power sector could be captured with Leosphere's subsidiary Avent proposing wind turbine mounted LIDARs which plug "eyes" onto the wind turbines' nacelles, increasing turbine responsiveness to upwinds and consequently power performances and lifetimes.

Leosphere is also expanding into other attractive markets such as airports (wind shears, wake vortex, volcanic ash and fog detection), severe weather forecast (prevention of hurricane and tornado damages), climate change (carbon emission tradable values) and also air quality and industrial security.

Alexandre Sauvage, co-founder and CEO of Leosphere comments: *"this capital increase will allow us to invest further into our product development, and to strengthen the servicing of our Lidars anywhere around the globe. The operation validates the steadiness and attractiveness of our track record and diversified business plan with the dynamic cleantech private equity sector. Meanwhile, the company managed in 2012 again to capture the overall growth of a wind industry looking for new technologies to explore new windy lands and to increase its intrinsic profitability."*

Oraxys' Managing Partner Gregory Fayolle declared that *"Leosphere is an example that the French high tech innovation can be quickly exported internationally. In 8 years, the company achieved more than 90% of its revenues abroad, with a specific focus on the United States and China. Oraxys is excited to partner with the high level management team of Leosphere in order to participate in the development of a new European industrial group."*

Natureo Finance acted as Leosphere's sole financial advisor.

"We are extremely pleased to have helped one of France's leading cleantech companies to achieve its growth fund raising requirements. Our sectorial expertise was fully brought to service for Leosphere. During the process, we noticed the tremendous interest from top class investors worldwide", said Philippe Schmitt, co-founder of Natureo Finance.

Alexandre Sauvage added : *“Enjoying the financial strength and high level industrial background of Oraxys’ Partners, Leosphere is now well geared to consolidate its leadership in the wide atmospheric remote sensing industry. Beyond the tremendous internal growth potential, we also foresee some great external growth opportunities, which will strengthen our positioning within the value chain or add additional competences in very specific areas.”*

About Leosphere: www.leosphere.com

Leosphere is a high-technology company located in Paris Region with a focus on atmospheric lidar sensing. It employs 125 people and has deployed over 400 Lidar systems throughout the world since 2004. Its technology comes from French leading optoelectronics and atmospheric science public research laboratories such as the ONERA (French aerospace research agency) and the CEA (Atomic Energy Research agency). Leosphere serves the markets of wind power, air traffic management, air quality and meteorology.

About Oraxys: www.oraxys.com

Oraxys is one of the first private equity companies of Luxembourg-French origin with a European influence, specialised in growth capital investments for SMEs that market products or services with a positive impact in terms of Environment, Public Health and Energy. As a shareholder with a strategic industrial added value, mostly with a minority stake, Oraxys invests on average € 5 to 15 million per company. Oraxys’ team includes Strategy Partners who held C-levels positions in European industrial groups (Energy equipment, Chemistry, Materials, etc) sharing business experiences and broad international networks in Europe, North America, Middle East, South-East Asia, India and China.

Advisors:

Legal: Sarrau Thomas Couderc (Leosphere), De Pardieu Brocas Maffei (Oraxys)

Leosphere’s financial advisor: Natureo Finance SAS (www.natureofinance.com) is a corporate finance advisory boutique, providing financial and strategic advisory in the cleantech, renewable and environmental sectors. Natureo Finance offers an innovative approach to traditional investment banking. It forms long-term relationships with leading cleantech growth companies and large corporations supporting the cleantech ecosystem. Natureo Finance also offers institutional investors and industrial companies in depth-research specific to them. The company has offices in France and in Germany. Natureo is registered to the AMF (Autorité des Marchés Financiers) under the number B000167 and is the member of the AACIF.

Contact:

Leosphere

Domitile Cournault
Communication Manager
+33 (0)1 81 87 05 00
dcournault@leosphere.com

Oraxys

Gregory Fayolle
Managing Partner
+33 (0)4 72 83 60 51
gregory.fayolle@oraxys.com

Natureo Finance

Philippe Schmitt
Managing Director
+33 (0)1 43 12 79 05
pschmitt@natureofinance.com