

Luxembourg, 21 February 2013

Press Release

BIP Investment Partners S.A. participates in the Buy-Out of Socotec (France)

BIP is pleased to announce that it has made a direct equity investment in the investment vehicle majority owned by Cobepa which has acquired the control of Socotec alongside Five Arrows Principal Investments and Socotec's Management, resulting in an indirect holding of around 7% in Socotec for BIP.

Socotec is a global provider of risk management services and has been acting for the last 60 years as an independent third party in the fields of quality, health and environment.

With pro forma sales of EUR 475 million, a broad network of 200 agencies in France and a presence in 40 countries, Socotec is a leading player in risk prevention services.

About BIP Investment Partners S.A.

BIP is a financial holding company with family shareholders, listed on the Luxembourg stock exchange and investing in listed and unlisted entities operating mainly in Germany, in the Benelux and in France. BIP holds stakes in major businesses in the Luxembourg economy and neighbouring regions. The Company is active in the private equity sector. As a part of its mission, BIP seeks to encourage entrepreneurship by supporting innovative, high-potential projects. The BIP share is a component of the LuxX, the index of the Luxembourg Bourse.

For more information: www.bip.lu

About Socotec

The Socotec Group provides services to improve the performance of businesses and local authorities through risk management. For 60 years, it has built a reputation as an independent third-party organization in the fields of quality, security, health and safety and the environment. Thanks to the skills of its employees, Socotec provides inspection, technical assistance, consulting, training and certification to the construction, real estate, industry and infrastructure sectors. With revenue of EUR 475 million (pro forma 2012), 5,000 employees, more than 150 external recognitions, a network of 200 facilities in France and operations in more than 40 countries, the Socotec Group is a major player in risk prevention consulting.

For more information: www.socotec.com

About Cobepa

Cobepa is an independent, privately-held investment company whose shareholders are important European industrial families. Since 1957, Cobepa has been active as an equity investor in Europe. It currently manages assets worth about €1.2 billion. With 16 key investments, including 80% outside Belgium, its portfolio is diversified between industrial and service firms that hold top positions in their respective markets. Cobepa is based in Brussels.

For more information: www.cobepa.be

About Five Arrows Principal Investments

Five Arrows Principal Investments (FAPI) is a EUR 585 million pan-European fund that invests in mid-cap companies. The FAPI fund is managed by Five Arrows Managers (FAM), a subsidiary of Rothschild Group that specializes in unlisted investments (equity and debt). With its affiliates, FAM manages nearly EUR 3.5 billion. Rothschild Group is an independent, international financial services group with nearly 2,800 employees in more than 40 countries.

For more information: www.rothschild.com