

# Press release

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25 May 2007

## KBC Private Equity closes transaction with Hungarian printing company Grafika Press

***Brussels, Budapest – Yesterday, KBC Private Equity acquired a minority shareholding in Grafika Press, a Hungarian printing company, after receiving the approval of the Competition Office. In addition, KBC Private Equity provided Grafika with a mezzanine facility to finance the acquisition of assets from Szikra, another printing company. These transactions represent the first deal that KBC Private Equity has closed in Hungary.***

Grafika Press is a full-service, heat-set and cold-set printer operating mainly in the commercial and magazine market. The company has grown impressively over the past few years, partly as a result of the successful integration of acquisitions financed by the Hungarian Development Bank's (MFB) capital increase in 2005. KBC Private Equity is taking over MFB's stake in Grafika.

Following the integration of the Szikra printing business and the acquisition of some of Kossuth's printing assets, Grafika is now poised to achieve a top-3 position in the Hungarian printing industry, with sales expected to exceed 20 million EUR in 2007.

Floris Vansina, Managing Director of KBC Private Equity, had this to say about the deal, *"We are very pleased with our first project in Hungary. Grafika has demonstrated sustained profitable growth under the dynamic management of the Farkas family. The acquisition of the Szikra's printing business will position Grafika as one of the leading commercial and magazine printers in the Hungarian market."*

### **About KBC Private Equity ([www.kbcpe.be](http://www.kbcpe.be))**

KBC Private Equity provides development capital to and finances buy-outs of medium-sized companies for amounts between 2 and 50 million EUR. The company operates in Belgium and in Central Europe, KBC's home markets, and has offices in Brussels, Budapest, Prague and Warsaw.

KBC Private Equity can take both majority and minority stakes and contributes financial resources in the form of equity and/or mezzanine finance. Boasting an experienced team of 28 people, KBC Private Equity has approximately 60 active investments in portfolio with a market value in excess of 450 million EUR. It is an active shareholder with a long-term perspective, involved in taking strategic decisions and providing active support to management teams in the further development of their company. As part of KBC group, KBC Private Equity can rely on the group's extensive network and knowledge.

Floris Vansina, Managing Director, KBC Private Equity

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