

Press Release



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KBC Private Equity acquires Polish scooter distributor ZIPP

Brussels, Warsaw – KBC Private Equity has acquired ZIPP from Kross. ZIPP is one of the leading Polish scooter distributors. This transaction represents the first deal that KBC Private Equity has closed in Poland. Financial details of the transaction will not be disclosed.

Przasnysz-based ZIPP was established in 2005 by Polish bicycle producer Kross to develop the distribution of powered vehicles, such as scooters, light motorcycles and quads. The distribution network has over 300 points of sale and covers the whole country. Vapor, Astec and Quantum – all in the 50cc engine segment - are ZIPP's best-selling brands. In 2006, the company sold more than 9 000 units, a number that should increase by more than 50% in 2007. ZIPP intends to further develop its product offering, distribution network and geographical scope.

Floris Vansina, Managing Director of KBC Private Equity: *"We are very pleased with our first project in Poland. We look forward to supporting ZIPP's young and dynamic management team to further grow the company, which has a track record of profitable growth."*

About KBC Private Equity (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 euros. The company operates in Belgium and in Central & Eastern 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 euros. 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
Tel.: + 32 2 429 51 74, e-mail: floris.vansina@kbcpe.be