



groupe **solucom**

Paris, 31 July 2006, 7:00pm

New'Arch joins Solucom

Solucom announces its merger with New'Arch, a consulting company in the technical architecture of IT systems.

The agreement involves taking a majority holding, about 60%, in the capital of New'Arch, which occurred on 28 July, followed by the acquisition of the balance of shares, subject to suspensive conditions, during Q1'2007.

New'Arch, with about 30 consultants, posted turnover of € 3.7 million at 31 December 2005, with an operating margin of almost 10%.

High-level, matching skills

New'Arch will contribute to Solucom very high-level skills in the field of SAN⁽¹⁾ and Datacenters (consolidation, virtualisation), and above all its transverse skills in the technical architecture of IT systems, which perfectly complete the Group's offering.

The complementary nature of the major accounts client bases of New'Arch and the Solucom Group raise the many possibilities of commercial synergies. New'Arch's main clients include Carrefour, SGAM, Conforama and AFP, big principals where Solucom is not present.

An acquisition with an immediate beneficial effect

One year after the successful acquisition of Dreamsoft, with this merger Solucom confirms its growth strategy in all segments of the infrastructure consulting market, with the target of becoming the uncontested market leader by 2007.

Financed entirely in cash, this acquisition will have an immediate positive impact on net earnings per share.

A shared industrial project

The management team of New'Arch, which will continue to head the company, will fully participate in this industrial project. The closeness of vision and values of the two entities' teams should allow an easy integration and facilitate the rapid development of many synergies already identified.

"The merger with Solucom was obvious to us", says René Dumoucel, Chairman and co-founder of New'Arch. "We were attracted by the match in our skills and our clients, as well as by how close our corporate cultures were. Our main business as Architects benefits from the top-flight skills of Solucom, which in turn are strengthened by our skills in SAN and Datacenters. This merger will enable the development of new projects based on our offering, and underscores our ambition to become "The Architects' Company" within the leading, independent consulting group in IT."

"New'Arch is a very fine consulting company, with top of the line positioning", adds Pascal Imbert, Chairman of Solucom's Board of Directors. "It has developed unique know-how and is recognized as an architect of IT systems, which is very valuable for major accounts. New'Arch has high-level skills, which match those of Solucom very well. We are extremely pleased with this strategic merger, which strengthens our positioning and will help achieve our growth targets."

Upcoming releases: Turnover for the H1 2006/2007, on 14 November 2006 (after close of trading).

⁽¹⁾ SAN: Storage Area Network

The Solucom Group: Strategy, Design and Governance of Infrastructures

A key player and leader in the field of IT infrastructure consulting, the Solucom Group works with the IT departments of major accounts to develop their infrastructure strategies, design solutions and ensure the governance of their infrastructures.

The Group also consults to Telecoms operators and the media to define their strategy for innovative offerings and services.

Solucom is the partner of the largest French companies in their national and international projects: Air France, Alstom, ANPE, BNP-Paribas, Bouygues Telecom, EDF, France Télécom, Gaz de France, Crédit Agricole, La Poste, L'Oréal, Ministères des Affaires Etrangères, de l'Education Nationale, de l'Intérieur, Neuf Cegetel, SFR, SNCF, Société Générale, Suez.

Solucom is listed on Euronext Paris – Eurolist – Section C, NextEconomy section.

ISIN code: FR0004036036 - FTSE: 972, Services Informatiques – Mnemonics: LCO



All our financial information is available at www.solucom.fr

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