

Independent M&A Boutique

# FUNDRAISING

Industry Sector: Aeronautics Date : September 2020

# with new investors an Participation of new business angels

ELIXIR AIRCRAFT is finalizing a fundraising round





Elixir Aircraft, the French aircraft manufacturer that designed the first fourthgeneration two-seater, is finalizing a fund-raising round with new investors. Following the achievement of the EASA CS-23 certification in March 2020, this €3 million financing round will help accelerate the company's industrial and commercial development by welcoming local institutional funds, Ouest Croissance and Océan Participations, and new business angels to its capital. This development is accompanied by numerous recruitments as well as the move to new premises on La Rochelle airport.

# ELIXIR AIRCRAFT, the 4th generation of light aircraft with an international focus

Elixir Aircraft wishes to offer the worldwide market, a range of qualified 4th generation high-performance, low operating costs two-seater aircraft. The product it has designed is simple, robust, comfortable and particularly safe. It is composed of a small number of parts and is easy to maintain. Its construction makes extensive use of composite materials, notably using "one-shot" technology, and the latest generation of piston engines and electronic equipment for light aircraft. The EASA CS-23 certification obtained in March 2020 for the VFR 100hp version of the aircraft generated a substantial pre-order book, reflecting the interest generated and its relevance to the general aviation market.

#### An innovative company

Elixir Aircraft's ambition is to position itself sustainably on the general aviation market as an innovative company. This positioning has enabled it to be selected by the European Union as part of the H2020 program of excellence (now EIC) and to be part of a national program financed by the DGAC associating Elixir Aircraft with major French aeronautical groups, such as Airbus and Daher.

# Sales and commercialization ramp-up

- The funds raised will enable the company to support the mass production of the VFR 100hp version and to pursue the development and certification of other versions, notably more powerful, but also NVFR or IFR.
- At the same time, Elixir Aircraft, which now has a total of 32 employees, is completing its team with recruitments of all kinds manufacturing technicians, sales and administrative and financial personnel to move from the start-up stage to that of a fast-growing, structured SME.
- The company is also moving into new renovated premises (RT2012 standard) of 2300m<sup>2</sup>, better adapted and larger, in the industrial zone adjacent to La Rochelle airport, with a production capacity of up to 80 aircraft per year.





#### New investors

Since the creation of Elixir Aircraft in 2015, the three founders - Arthur Léopold-Léger (Chairman), Cyril Champenois (Marketing, Sales and Quality Director) and Nicolas Mahuet (Design Office Director) - have brought together close friends, business angels, a local supplier, and two regional investment funds (Poitou-Charentes and FCI Limousin, both managed by Aquiti Gestion).

Through this new round of financing, the company welcomes to its capital Ouest Croissance and Océan Participations, two local institutional funds (up to 18%), as well as two new important private investors (12%).

### LINKERS acted as sole financial advisor to ELIXIR AIRCRAFT:

#### Investors:

*Ouest Croissance:* Laurent BODIN, Henri GUILLERMIT *Océan Participations:* Pierrick CHARROT, Vincent PELLOQUIN *Private Investors:* Pascal-Olivier, MANTOUX, Hervé LIBEAU

#### Advisors to the company:

*Financial:* LINKERS - Philippe LAURENT, Florent COUDRAY *Legal:* Malgorzata LÉOPOLD-LÉGER and Jérôme HERCE (HMP Avocats)

#### Investors Consulting:

Legal: PwC Société d'Avocats - Jacques DARBOI Financial audit: KPMG Transaction Services - Arnaud COLAS M. MANTOUX: Rothschild & Cie - Philippe DUBOIS de MONTREYNAUD, managing partner



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