



Press Release

BEING CONSISTENT WITH ITS MAINSTREAM STRATEGY, THE SOCOTEC GROUP HAS SOLD ITS SOCOTEC OIL AND GAS ENTITY AND CONTINUES FOCUSING ON ITS CORE STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES

The SOCOTEC group, a major company in the TIC¹ sector in Europe, trusted partner in the construction, real estate and infrastructure fields, sold its subsidiary Socotec Oil and Gas to Interholding Group on the 15th of July. After an important acquisition track record done in the last 2 years, the Socotec group aims at concentrating on its core activities while opening a new external growth sequence on its verticals by 2024 in order to take the international leadership.

Socotec Oil and Gas had revenues of EUR 10.7 Mns in 2018. The company is a specialist in inspection services done in the plant itself or on site (« shop inspection ») and in technical assistance as well, for clients in the oil and gas sector, mainly for drilling and exploration activities (« upstream »).

Covering 57 countries last year, Socotec Oil and Gas has a global foothold with offices in Europe (Paris, Pau, Montpellier, London, Milan), in the United States (Houston), in Argentina (Buenos Aires), and in Asia (Singapore), managing an international network of 6,000 free-lance inspectors.

With more than 60 permanent people, Socotec Oil and Gas is positioned on a highly concentrated global market, where large actors with dense international networks are emerging.

Hervé Montjotin, CEO of Socotec Group declares: « Socotec Oil and Gas is a niche activity for us, in a market where specialists are going through intense transformation. We are not the right player to act and accelerate the sector consolidation and transformation. Moreover, synergies are not self-evident with our core activities. We prefer to keep concentrating on our strategic ambitions, with the objective of establishing a global leadership by 2024 in the testing, inspection and certification of constructions, real estate, and infrastructures such as in bridges, highways, tunnels, railways or airports ».

Over the last 2 years and a half, SOCOTEC, since the arrival of its new CEO, Hervé Montjotin, has been implementing a deep and remarkable transformation that has created a new European leader in its historical markets. Climbing from EUR 500 Mns to EUR 800 Mns of revenues in 3 years, through more than 15 acquisitions, Socotec has definitely taken an international wingspan, thanks to its ambitious external growth strategy. Among its 8,000 permanent staff, 50% are experts and engineers that innovate and help digitizing the construction and infrastructure areas.

Hervé Montjotin adds : « We will continue to serve our important clients in the Oil and Gas sector on quality, safety, environment and assets integrity control. We will concentrate on their mid-stream and down-stream activities (refineries, buildings...) at the heart of our expertise ».

Interholding Group is an Oil and Gas specialist, with post-acquisition total revenues amounting EUR 30 Mns. The company is currently seeking to develop itself through external growth. With the acquisition of Socotec Oil and Gas, Interholding will widen its technical competencies and broaden its international network already spread in 9 countries and relying on more 280 experts.

* TIC: Testing, Inspection, Certification

ABOUT THE SOCOTEC GROUP

The SOCOTEC Group, headed by Hervé Montjotin, has built its reputation over 65 years as a trusted partner assisting companies in the areas of quality, health and safety, and the environment.

SOCOTEC's mission is to ensure the integrity and performance of assets and people's safety. Through its Testing, Inspection and Certification services, SOCOTEC helps to optimise the performance of companies in every sector by managing the risks inherent in their activities. Drawing on its expertise and positioning itself as a long-term partner, SOCOTEC supports its clients throughout their project's lifecycle.

As France's No. 1 in building control and a major player in TIC (Testing, Inspection, Certification) for the construction and infrastructure sectors, the SOCOTEC Group generates consolidated revenue of €700 million (33% outside France) with 200,000 clients. It has operations in 25 countries, 7,800 employees and over 250 forms of external recognition. In France, its network of 150 locations covers the entire country.

For more information, go to www.socotec.com

Press Contact France :

Nicolas Escouan – Tel: +33 (0)6 42 19 14 74 – nicolas.escoulan@taddeo.fr