

Press Release



LASEA announces investment from private equity fund M80

LASEA, the Liège-based specialist in precision laser solutions for industry, has received a €10million investment from private equity fund M80, with the support of Noshag and SRIW.

Liège/Brussels, 15th March 2022

With offices in Belgium, France, Switzerland, and the USA, **LASEA** develops and produces extremely precise laser micromachining machines and solutions for global industries. Its top clients across five continents are leading brands or disruptors in the luxury goods industry, the MedTech industry, Big Tech & electronics, and research institutes. With LASEA's machines and solutions, clients can revolutionize their own production processes and offerings.



New building – LASEA Belgium

LASEA has seen continuous impressive growth, doubling revenues every couple of years. The company invests heavily in research and development with a portfolio of over 100 laser technology patents.

The capital injection from **M80** will drive international expansion and investment opportunities. It will boost innovation in areas such as new optical components, machines, and software. And it will enable further integration of the recently acquired Optec (BE). M80 becomes the second largest investor and will be an active partner in LASEA's further development. LASEA's founder, Axel Kupisiewicz, remains the largest shareholder and will continue to steer the organization as its CEO.

Both Noshag and SRIW – together with the Épipède fund early backers of LASEA – have expressed their continued support by increasing their shareholdership, maintaining LASEA's ties to Liège and the Walloon region.



New range of laser machines



Stent



Movement part (watch industry)

Axel Kupisiewicz, CEO LASEA: *“We found in M80 the right partner to further enable our growth. They will not just provide funds, but especially act as the right soundboard and hands-on partner that we need to bring LASEA to the next level.”*

Carl Annicq, M80 Partners: *“With high-end laser machining technology breaking through on many fronts, this is an exciting industry for M80 to invest in. LASEA has strong leadership and a long list of top tier clients. The management’s dedication to R&D means it is one of the most innovative companies around. Now is the right time for scale-up and we’re delighted to be on board.”*

About LASEA

- Founded in 1999, LASEA supplies production lines to the most prestigious companies in the world including the top 3 Swiss watchmakers, leading glasses manufacturers, the pharmaceutical and medical industry (intra-ocular, vascular and cochlear implants), as well as several big names of Silicon Valley.
- Active in 30 countries and on 5 continents, it has already installed more than 1500 machines worldwide (production systems and lines operating 24 hours a day).
- In addition to its headquarters in Belgium (Liège Science Park), it has subsidiaries in Mons (Belgium), Bordeaux, San Diego and Biel and employs 110 people.
- LASEA has been a finalist in the competition of the Promising Enterprise of the Year (EY), is part of the 50 fastest-growing companies in Belgium (Fast 50 - Deloitte) and has won various awards including the Wallonia Export Grand Prix 2018 (AWEX) and the Micron d’Or 2018 (Machine-tools category).
- More information on www.lasea.com

About M80

- M80 Partners is the management company of M80 Capital, a private equity fund established in November 2018, investing in companies in Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.
- Founded by Peter Maenhout, the investment team consists of seasoned private equity professionals, but also entrepreneurs, former CEOs and digital pioneers.
- The company focuses on growth companies in healthcare, consumer, business services and industry. The M80 team invests in companies it can help digitally transform to accelerate sales and improve operations.
- More information on www.m80partners.com/

About Noshag

- Noshag is a Belgian investment fund and project developer with a portfolio of 474 companies and 700 million euros of resources. Noshag is the reference financial partner for the creation and development of SMEs in the Liege Region (Wallonia). Over the years, Noshag has developed a range of financing vehicles in line with the needs and trends of the market and its strategy. Each service offered by Noshag (capital - loan - leasing) is always determined according to the demand and needs of the owner-investor. The objective is always to have a leverage effect on the company's development.
- More information on www.noshag.be

About SRIW

- S.R.I.W. develops a wide range of customised solutions to support business creation, development through innovation or investment, internal and external growth, the creation of subsidiaries in Wallonia, Belgium or abroad, winning new markets, etc. The value of its shareholdings currently exceeds 2.2 billion euros.
- More information on www.sriw.be

About Épimède

- Épimède Capital is an investment fund targeting small and medium-sized enterprises with high growth potential in the technology sector.
- More information on www.epimede.com

Contacts

- Violette Marbehant – Marketing Manager LASEA: +32 4 365 02 43 / +32 4 97 43 46 63 – vmarbehant@lasea.com