

Azimut Group and Petershill at Goldman Sachs Asset Management enter into a binding agreement to buy Azimut's stake in Kennedy Lewis Investment Management in the US

Azimut realizes its first exit in its GP Staking business

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The **Azimut Group** ("Azimut"), through its subsidiary Azimut Alternative Capital Partners, LLC ("AACP"), and **Petershill at Goldman Sachs Asset Management** ("Petershill") entered into binding agreements to **buy Azimut's entire stake in Kennedy Lewis Investment Management ("KLIM") for an all-cash total consideration of \$ 225 million. Azimut's initial investment in KLIM was \$ 60 million⁽¹⁾.**

Azimut, through AACP, is active in GP Staking, acquiring minority ownership interests in lower middle market alternative asset managers (private equity, private credit and real assets). **KLIM** was AACP's first investment in July 2020, when the firm had ca. **\$ 2 billion in AUM, growing to \$ 14 billion today**. KLIM is a leading credit alternative asset manager founded in 2017 by David Kennedy Chene and Darren Lewis Richman. The firm manages private funds, a business development company, collateralized loan obligations and invests across various sectors and geographies.

Other than KLIM, AACP has completed four other minority stake investments: Pathlight Capital, Roundshield Partners, HighPost Capital and Broadlight Capital. The AUM of these affiliates today is almost \$7 billion, up 57% versus the AUM at initial investment date.

Pietro Giuliani, Chairman of Azimut Group, comments: "As we *highlighted earlier this year, this **second significant special transaction** – following the one announced on 28 March 2024 - **demonstrates the quality (often overlooked by the majority of the market) of our international partnerships in Private Markets, in particular in the US, the world's largest and most sophisticated market for Alternatives. This transaction means creating value for our shareholders and confirms the validity of our path aimed at expanding internationally and growing in Private Markets, representing a unique opportunity for our clients in terms of product range and, above all, results. Our strategy to unlock the value of Azimut Holding shares is materializing, and with today's news, we remain even more convinced that the stock portion of the dividend proposed to the AGM should express a greater value than €0.40 per share. As a reminder, in our Group we have approximately 35 operating companies (within the 130 subsidiaries and 19 affiliates ex-Italy) with assets and clients whose value is not currently reflected in the Azimut stock price.***"

Giorgio Medda, CEO of Azimut Group, adds: "Notwithstanding this exit, we are committed to continue growing in the GP Staking landscape in the Lower / Middle-Market segment as well as in the broader Private Markets space, in the US and globally. This transaction **demonstrates the potential to exit positions in AACP's target investment segment to established GP Stakes buyers**. We bid farewell with a sense of gratitude to David, Darren, and the entire Kennedy Lewis team for the exceptional collaboration. They are not only outstanding managers and investors but also remarkable individuals. We extend our best wishes to them as they embark on a new journey with Petershill, a solid and reliable partner, with which we are sure they will be able to reach even more significant objectives in the broader private credit space. Our relationship with Kennedy Lewis however does not end; Azimut's clients (both in Italy and the US) have invested in KLIM's underlying strategies and we are convinced that our strategic and commercial relations will continue also in the future."

David K. Chene and Darren L. Richman, Co-Founders and Co-Managing Partners of Kennedy Lewis, says: "We would like to thank the team at AACP for their contributions and the role they played as we built Kennedy Lewis into the firm it is today and also our valued clients for their long-standing trust and support. We see a large and expanding pool of opportunities that are well-suited to our opportunistic, industry-focused approach and will now be even better positioned to seize these opportunities on behalf of our global investor base"

Note (1): assumes the \$60 million as fully drawn before the closing of this transaction.

BofA Securities acted as financial advisor and Seward & Kissel LLP acted as legal advisor to Kennedy Lewis. Sidley Austin LLP served as legal advisor to AACCP and Kirkland & Ellis served as legal advisor to Petershill at Goldman Sachs Asset Management.

Azimut is an independent, global group in the asset management, wealth management, investment banking and fintech space, serving private and corporate clients. A public company listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (AZM.IM), the group is a leader in Italy and active in 18 countries around the world, with a focus on emerging markets. The shareholder structure includes around 2,000 managers, employees and financial advisors bound by a shareholders' agreement that controls ca. 22% of the company. The remaining is free float. The Group comprises various companies active in the sale, management, and distribution of financial and insurance products, with registered offices in Italy, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China (Hong Kong and Shanghai), Egypt, Ireland, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Portugal, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, UAE, and USA. In Italy, Azimut Capital Management SGR sells and manages Italian mutual funds, Italian alternative investment funds, as well as being active in the discretionary management of individual investment portfolios. Furthermore, Azimut Capital Management SGR distributes Group and third-party products in Italy via a network of financial advisors while Azimut Libera Impresa focuses on the alternatives business. The main foreign companies are Azimut Investments SA (founded in Luxembourg in 1999), which manages the multi strategy funds AZ Fund 1 and AZ Multi Asset, and the Irish Azimut Life DAC, which offers life insurance products.

Founded in 2019, Azimut Alternative Capital Partners, LLC is the New York-based GP Stakes Business of Azimut Group. AACCP acquires minority equity stakes in private markets firms (e.g. private equity, private credit and real assets) in the lower middle market (\$500M - \$3B AUM at the time of investment) primarily in North America and Western Europe. More info on www.azimutalternative.us

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