



Press Release, Portorož, Slovenia, 17th November 2021

## ‘Winners of the European Small and Mid-Cap Awards 2021’

FESE and European Issuers in cooperation with the European Commission (DG GROW) are delighted to announce the winners of the European Small and Mid-Cap Awards 2021.

The Awards aim to promote best practices and to highlight the best European Small and Mid-Sized Companies that have gained access to capital markets via an Initial Public Offering (IPO). They showcase the diversity of European markets, and strive to promote stock listings, in particular targeting SMEs and growth companies.

The following four companies were selected as the winners of the four hotly-contested categories. Chosen from among a very high standard of nominations, they received their awards at a special ceremony in Portorož, Slovenia.

### International Star

*Awarded to a newly listed mid-cap company with impressive international sales, profits and market share growth*

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Pexip is a global video conferencing company that simplifies video communication across businesses and platforms. Pexip provides a flexible, scalable meeting platform, including a variety of deployment methods. With a focus on privacy and data security, Pexip can be customized to meet customers' unique needs and existing infrastructure, providing a solution for traditional video meetings but also a platform for business to consumer applications. **Pexip is listed on Euronext.**

### Rising Star

*Awarded to an exceptional SME with a market capitalisation of up to €50 million*

**FOM**  
TECHNOLOGIES

FOM Technologies sells state of the art and cutting-edge slot-die coating machines and equipment that enables researchers, scientist's and professionals to discover, develop and commercialise new functional materials, for a cleaner and more sustainable future. Slot-die coating is a new precise method for depositing a thin liquid film to the surface of a substrate. Main The main focus research areas are energy harvesting (Solar) and energy storage (Batteries, Fuel-cells and Power to X). **FOM Technologies is listed on Nasdaq.**

### Star of Innovation

*Awarded to a newly listed mid-cap that places innovation at the centre of its business development strategy*



Nanoform is an innovative nanoparticle medicine enabling company. Nanoform works together with pharma and biotech partners globally to provide hope for patients in developing new and improved medicines utilizing Nanoform's platform technologies. The company focuses on reducing clinical attrition and on enhancing drug molecules' performance through its nanoforming technologies and formulation services. **Nanoform is listed on Nasdaq.**

### Star of 2021

*Awarded to a newly listed company displaying outstanding corporate responsibility and exceptional performance in its sector*



Aluflexpack produces flexible packaging solutions mainly for end-markets such as coffee & tea, pharmaceuticals, pet food, confectionery and dairy. Well-established insights, service flexibility and development competence are what underpin long-term customer relationships, both with local operating companies and large international corporations. Aluflexpack, headquartered in Switzerland, has production facilities in Switzerland, France, Poland and Turkey and Croatia. **Aluflexpack is listed on SIX Swiss Exchange.**

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The Awards also assigned a 'Special Mention', to recognise an initiative, an individual or a company which has had a significant impact on small and mid-cap issuers accessing capital markets.

### Special Mention



A Enlight Research helps issuers communicate their investment story and gives investors insights to support their investment decisions. Our vision is to create a fair investment environment where high-quality research is available to all. Our success is visible on the Baltic Stock Exchange where the

majority of the well-known listed companies have joined our platform and readership have gone from hundreds to thousands.

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Petr Kobic, President of FESE, commented: “Many congratulations to this year’s winners. Even if ultimately we only crowned one winner per category, being listed on capital markets is already a big achievement - one that makes every public company a winner in their own right.”

“These Awards showcase successful IPOs from all over Europe and provide clear examples of the advantages listing on exchanges offers companies when seeking to access finance.”

“SMEs are the foundation of the European economy. They are vitally important in creating jobs, supporting growth and boosting innovation. Supporting companies such as those celebrated last night to grow is essential to powering Europe’s economic recovery. We, the stock exchanges, will do all we can to enable SMEs to access finance through public markets. Europe must also help to nurture local and developing financial ecosystems which serve smaller companies and their investors, amend the regulatory framework for companies listing, and boost equity and non-equity financing at all stages of the funding escalator.”

Luc Vansteenkiste, Chairman of EuropeanIssuers, said: “The recent two years have been a rollercoaster for all companies in the world, but happily enough we witnessed that most of the EU companies, thanks to the flexibility and fighting spirit of all their stakeholders, survived and started growing again. Today we are facing a new urgent challenge: climate change. Investors and CEOs of companies fully realize that to meet this challenge we are forced to adapt our economic activities. We are all together in this boat and it is my conviction that listed companies have a huge advantage to find the necessary capital and funds to realize these vital projects.

So let me congratulate all companies of the European Small and Mid-Cap Awards, because the fact that you made the step to the stock market, not an easy decision, could be for you in the coming years the source of your survival and growth.”

Kristin Schreiber, Director at the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, remarked: ““The COVID-19 crisis severely affected the EU’s economic landscape and triggered the need for renewed ambition to support the financing of high-growth small companies and scale-ups. As indicated in the recent Capital Market Union Action Plan and in the Communication on the SME Strategy, the Commission aims at making it easier for small and high growth companies to raise capital in order to finance their growth, in particular by supporting their access to EU public markets. The European Small and Midcap awards are a great occasion to raise awareness on this objective and promote the access of SMEs to public capital markets. We hope that the awarded companies will serve as good examples for other EU companies needing to access EU public capital markets. As part of the support to the listing in EU markets, the Commission is working on creating a SME IPO Fund which will support EU SMEs during and beyond their listing process.”

## Notes to editors:

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The runners-up were the following:

### *Category 'International Star'*

*Česká zbrojovka Group (CZG) listed on Prague Stock Exchange (Czech Republic)  
M+Group listed on Zagreb Stock Exchange (Croatia)*

### *Category 'Rising Star'*

*Dadelo SA listed on Warsaw Stock Exchange (Poland)  
Ecomiam listed on Euronext (France)*

### *Category 'Star of Innovation'*

*CY4GATE listed on Borsa Italiana (Italy)  
Marinomed Biotech AG listed on Vienna Stock Exchange (Austria)*

### *Category 'Star of 2021'*

*Compleo Charging Solutions AG listed on Deutsche Börse (Germany)  
Making Science listed on BME (Spain)*

## **The Awards Jury**

*The shortlisted companies are chosen by an independent jury:*

- *Detlef Fechtner, EU Correspondent, Börsen-Zeitung*
- *Martin Hock, Finance Editor, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (F.A.Z.)*
- *Jean-Pierre Paelinck, President and Secretary General, World Federation of Investors*
- *Phaedon Tamvakakis, Vice Chairman, Alpha Trust Investment Services*
- *James Wood, Small Cap Specialist, Winterflood Securities*

## **About the European Commission**

*The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) of the European Commission develops and implements a range of policies to improve access to finance for SMEs in the EU. SMEs are critical to European economic recovery and to accomplishing the EU's goals of job creation, competitiveness and growth. For more information, please visit [https://ec.europa.eu/growth/access-to-finance\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/access-to-finance_en).*

## **About EuropeanIssuers**

*EuropeanIssuers is a pan-European organisation representing the interests of publicly quoted companies across Europe to the EU Institutions. We seek capital markets that serve the interests of their end users, including issuers. For more information, please visit [www.europeanissuers.eu](http://www.europeanissuers.eu).*

## **About FESE**

*The Federation of European Securities Exchanges (FESE) represents 36 exchanges in equities, bonds, derivatives and commodities through 18 full members from 30 countries, as well as one Affiliate Member and one Observer Member. For further information, please visit [www.fese.eu](http://www.fese.eu).*

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