

**Press release****Zurich, 22 December 2017****Important milestones reached in Dixence Resort development project**

- **Agreement signed with ValVital to manage and operate “Thermes de la Dixence”**
- **Agreement with GoodNight Partners to operate the hotel**
- **Sale of plots for the construction and operation of a “Swisspeak Resort” agreed with Mountain Resort Real Estate Fund SICAV**
- **Further analysis confirms excellent quality of the thermal spring water**
- **Project implementation progressing as planned with pleasing sales development**

Investis has signed a long-term agreement with ValVital (Compagnie Européenne des Bains, France) to manage and operate the “Thermes de la Dixence” thermal spa and wellness centre in Hérémece (Canton Valais). In addition, GoodNight Partners has been appointed to manage the hotel. An agreement has also been made with investment company Mountain Resort Real Estate Fund SICAV for the sale of parts of the land on which it will build and operate a “Swisspeak Resort”. Construction is progressing as planned. There is great interest in the project, and sales have already been confirmed.

**A special kind of project**

The Dixence Resort – an Investis development project currently under construction – is located at an altitude of 1,750 metres and consists of a hotel complex with 60 rooms, a thermal spa and wellness centre (Thermes de la Dixence), a “Swisspeak Resort” with around 100 apartments planned exclusively for rent, five chalets and five apartment buildings with a total of 58 condominiums. The resort, which covers a site of 25,000 m<sup>2</sup> in the municipality of Hérémece in Canton Valais, has direct access to the “Thyon 2000 - Les Collons” ski area, part of the “4 Vallées” winter sports region.

The thermal and wellness centre extends over more than 3,000 m<sup>2</sup> on two levels: almost 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> indoors and more than 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> outside (pools and terraces). It is complemented by further facilities in the thermal and wellness area. All the facilities are open to the public. The pools are fed by the naturally heated waters of the Combioulaz spring, which is located below the Euseigne earth pyramids on the valley floor of the Val d'Hérens. Recent drilling has verified that the thermal water, valued for its healing properties, has a temperature of 30°C. “The chance to use this water for the thermal baths at the Dixence Resort project represents a unique opportunity and a valuable feature of the project. The water quality is equal to that in Saint-Gervais-Les-Bains – a well-known French spa town,” said Stéphane Bonvin, CEO of Investis, who was born in Canton Valais.

**Expertise and experience in the thermal spa business**

ValVital, based in Paris, is France’s second largest thermal spa company. It runs eleven facilities and three hotel complexes in France. “Our expansion into Switzerland is a very promising and exciting opportunity for us. It fits with our external growth strategy, but most of all it allows us to participate in a high-quality project in an attractive location in the Valais – somewhere that we want to commit to for the long term,” explains Olivier Bruez, Business Development Director at ValVital.

**Project implementation and marketing on track**

The Dixence Resort is being built in several phases over the next years. Work on the first residential building, “Aiguilles Rouges”, began in mid-September 2016 and will be completed by the end of 2018. Eight of the thirteen apartments have already been sold with preliminary contracts, and one of the chalets has also attracted a purchase commitment off plan. Construction of the second apartment building should be completed in spring 2019.

The hotel and thermal baths are scheduled to open in autumn 2020. GoodNight Partners, the company commissioned by Investis to choose the spa operator, is also responsible for building and launching the hotel, and managing its operation. “The hotel will offer 60 modern rooms, which reflect the natural characteristics of the region and are targeted at a family- and sports-oriented clientele. The hotel is designed to support the activities offered throughout the whole year in the Dixence Resort project and more generally in Hérémece and the Val d'Hérens,” said Arjun Fornerod, Managing Director of GoodNight Partners.

Jean-Daniel Masserey, Managing Director of mjd architectes SA, which is in charge of project management, says that “the project is unique; nature lovers seeking relaxation will appreciate the location right next to the ski slopes, the spa facilities and the breathtaking views of the mountains.”

**Recognised the great potential**

Investment company Mountain Resort Real Estate Fund SICAV has also recognised the great potential of the project and decided to purchase three plots with a total area of 3,574 m<sup>2</sup>. Two of these plots already have building permission. Mountain Resort will build a “Swisspeak Resort” on this land, offering around 100 rental apartments with approximately 500 beds in total. “Our fund is pleased to be investing in this very beautiful project, which fits perfectly into our strategy. It’s located in a popular family destination near the mountain railways of the 4 Vallées region, while the spa and wellness centre adds a further dimension to our offering,” said Philippe Lathion, Chairman of Mountain Resort Real Estate Fund SICAV.

For more information and pictures of the Dixence Resort project: [www.dixence-resort.ch](http://www.dixence-resort.ch)

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**About Investis Group**

Founded in 1994, Investis Group is a leading residential property company in the Lake Geneva region and a national real estate services provider active in the two synergetic segments of Properties and Real Estate Services. Investis Properties has a portfolio consisting almost exclusively of residential properties located in the Lake Geneva region, which was valued at CHF 1,036 million as at 30 June 2017. Investis Real Estate Services is active throughout Switzerland with well-known local brands. Further information at: [www.investisgroup.com](http://www.investisgroup.com)

**About ValVital**

ValVital (Compagnie Européenne des Bains) was established as a family business by current CEO, Bernard Riach in 1989. ValVital operates in the thermal baths, health spa and wellness sector and runs 11 facilities in France.

ValVital employs 580 people (full-time equivalents) and generates annual pre-tax sales of around EUR 40 million (2017 figures). Further information:

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**About Mountain Resort Real Estate Fund SICAV**

Mountain Resort Real Estate Fund SICAV is a real estate investment fund licensed by FINMA. Its investment strategy focuses on the development of tourist accommodation in numerous locations in the Swiss Alps under the Swisspeak resort brand. Asset manager GeFiswiss SA, which is also FINMA regulated, is responsible for building the properties, while Interhome AG, one of the biggest letters of holiday homes in Europe and a subsidiary of Migros, is in charge of operations under the “Swisspeak Resorts” brand. The fund already manages the Swisspeak Prada Resort in Brigels, Canton Grisons, and the Swisspeak Resort in Vercorin, Canton Valais. Two further complexes due to open in 2019 are under construction in Zinal in the Valais and Meiringen in Canton Bern. By 2024, the fund should have a portfolio of around ten resorts in different Swiss locations, each offering around 500 beds.

**About GoodNight Partners**

GoodNight Partners SA (GNP) is an independent Swiss company that develops, invests in and manages properties in the hotel sector. The company, founded in 2014, provides strategic advice and know-how, generating added value for hotels and other tourism projects in Switzerland and Europe. GNP currently runs six hotels (CHF 65 million assets under management), manages three construction projects/repositionings (CHF 48 million) and provides strategic advice for existing or planned hotel projects with a total capacity of more than 1,600 rooms. For more information: [www.goodnightpartners.com](http://www.goodnightpartners.com) - [info@goodnightpartners.com](mailto:info@goodnightpartners.com)