



# SPAFID CONNECT

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Oggetto : PR NB Aurora\_Closing PHSE

*Testo del comunicato*

Vedi allegato.

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**COMPLETED THE ACQUISITION OF PHSE BY THE ENTREPRENEUR  
AND MANAGER EDDY DE VITA AND NB AURORA**

*Luxembourg, 12 March 2020*

Following the distribution of the press release on 16 December 2019, **NB Aurora S.A. SICAF-RAIF ("NB Aurora")**, listed in Italy on the MIV - Professional Segment ("MIV") organised and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A., with the aim of acquiring minority stakes in top notch unlisted Italian SMEs, announces today - thanks to the fulfilment of the conditions precedent - the closing of the co-investment agreement with manager and entrepreneur Eddy De Vita for the acquisition of the majority stake in PHSE through the company vehicles PHS Group SpA and PHS Srl. The three founding partners will reinvest in the company by acquiring 30%.

Based on an investment of approximately 16 million euros (fully financed from its own resources), NB Aurora directly holds 44% of PHS Group SpA, controlled by Eddy De Vita, and indirectly 30,8% of PHS Srl which owns 100% of PHSE.

Founded in 2002, PHSE (Pharma Healthcare Supply Chain Expertise) focused first on the logistical management of clinical trials and later specialized in the controlled temperature transport of pharmaceuticals (both high-end and experimental) for the 2-8°C segment and biological samples for the hospital channel. The company, with a consolidated turnover of approximately 30 million euro, now controls 50% of the domestic market, with 12 hubs and approximately 300 employees.

The business development strategy, which will be implemented both organically and through acquisitions, will aim to expand the range of services offered to the hospital channel and the home delivery service, with a plan of targeted investments in resources, quality and IT. At the same time the strategy will focus on the development of PHSE international platform, which already includes New York, London/Heathrow and Singapore thanks to the lead of Graham Inglis, former Global CEO of DHL Life Sciences & Healthcare, and Chief Development Officer for the entire global Supply Chain business.

## **NB Aurora**

NB Aurora is the first permanent capital vehicle listed in Italy on the MIV segment that was created with the aim of investing in unlisted SMEs, in order to convey financial resources to support their growth and internationalization, thus helping to support the real economy of the country. NB Aurora is promoted by Neuberger Berman, a private investment company, independent and controlled by its employees, with approximately \$356 billion under management (as at 31 December 2019). NB Aurora's investment target is top notch Italian SMEs, leaders in niche markets with high growth potential, with turnover between 30 and 300 million euros and a strong appetite for export. NB Aurora's team operates with an active minority approach, with a view to partnership with entrepreneurs with a medium-long term horizon. NB Aurora currently holds 10 investments in Italian SMEs directly or through its 44.55% stake in Fondo Italiano di Investimento.

### **For further information on NB Aurora:**

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