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<i>Testo del comunicato</i>
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Vedi allegato.

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**NB AURORA SIGNS A BINDING AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE 30% OF  
COMET, ITALIAN LEADER IN THE PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC  
RUBBER AND SILICONE COMPOUNDS**

*Luxembourg, 7 July 2021 - NB Aurora S.A. SICAF-RAIF ("NB Aurora"), listed in Italy on the MIV - Segmento Professionale ("MIV") market organised and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A., with the aim of acquiring holdings in unlisted Italian SMEs, announces that today it has signed - through the fully controlled vehicle NB Aurora Holdings S.à r.l. ("NB Aurora Holdings") – an acquisition agreement (the "Contract") for the purchase of a minority stake in the share capital of Comet S.r.l. ("Comet").*

The Contract provides for NB Aurora Holdings, directly or through an Italian newly-formed vehicle controlled by the same NB Aurora Holdings ("Newco"), to hold 30% of Comet's share capital, acquiring the relevant shares from the sole shareholder BHF S.r.l. for a consideration of Eur 36 million including transaction costs. NB Aurora's investment in Comet will be made entirely from its own resources.

Starting from today and for a period until the date of 31 December 2021, NB Aurora Holdings will have the right to syndicate, to vehicles managed by the same Neuberger Berman Group, a minority stake in Newco.

The transaction is expected to be completed by the end of the third quarter of 2021, subject to the fulfilment of the relevant conditions precedent, including the granting of antitrust clearance.

Comet, based in Coccaglio (BS) and founded in 1980 by the Bernini family that controls and manages the company, is a leader in Italy in the development and production of tailor-made organic rubber, silicone and fluorosilicone compounds, made "ad-hoc" to efficiently meet the technical needs of each customer. The compounds produced by Comet are used for various applications in different industries such as transportation (light and heavy vehicles, motorcycles, land-moving and rail vehicles), water, electricity, food, medical, pharmaceutical, constructions and infrastructures.

Comet holds an important product and process know-how and thanks to the support of more than 130 employees, whose number increased even during the pandemic period and represent a very valuable asset

for their knowledge and technical expertise, Comet's annual production stands today at about 30,000 tons of compounds. In recent years, Comet has continued to invest to expand its know-how and product portfolio, also through the acquisition in 2016 of Laborsil, a company specialized in the production of silicone and fluorosilicone compounds merged by incorporation into Comet in 2018, and to increase its production capacity and efficiency, through the construction in 2015 of the new production plant in Coccaglio (BS), among the most advanced in the industry, built with a strong focus on environmental sustainability and technological innovation.

## **NB Aurora**

NB Aurora, the first permanent capital vehicle listed in Italy on the MIV professional segment of the Italian Stock Exchange, has been created with the purpose to invest in unlisted SMEs, conveying financial resources to support their growth and international expansion, thus helping to support the real economy. NB Aurora is promoted by Neuberger Berman, a private, independent, employee-owned investment manager, with \$402 billion AUM (as of 31 March 2021). The investment target includes top-class SMEs with a leading position in specialized niches and a strong export attitude with a turnover between €30 and €300 million. NB Aurora team operates with an active minority approach, partnering with entrepreneurs with a medium-long term horizon. After the first deal that led NB Aurora to acquire 44.55% of the shares of Fondo Italiano di Investimento (17 initial shareholdings of which it currently still holds the investments in Ligabue, DBA Group, Sira Industrie, Amut Group and Zeis Excelsa), the fund invested in 7 companies: Club del Sole (leader in the camping-village sector in Italy), Dierre Group (leader in Italy in the production of tech components for industrial automation), PHSE (Italian leader in the temperature-controlled transport of drugs and biological samples), BluVet (network of veterinary clinics), Rino Mastrotto Group (world leader in the production and marketing of leathers for fashion, automotive and furniture industries), Engineering (leader in Italy in the digital transformation of companies, public and private organizations) and Veneta Cucine (Europe's leading manufacturer of fitted kitchens).

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

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