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## PRESS RELEASE

## NB AURORA HAS SIGNED A BINDING AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A 42.75% STAKE IN EXACER, A COMPANY ACTIVE IN THE SPECIALTY CHEMICALS BUSINESS THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF CATALYST SUPPORTS AND CUSTOM CATALYSTS AS A TOLL MANUFACTURING PRODUCER FOR MAJOR GLOBAL CHEMICAL GROUPS

Luxembourg, 29 September 2021 - NB Aurora S.A. SICAF-RAIF ("NB Aurora"), promoted by Neuberger Berman and 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 it has today signed - through its wholly-owned vehicle NB Aurora Holdings S.à r.l. ("NB Aurora Holdings") - an acquisition agreement (the "Agreement") for the purchase of a minority stake in the share capital of Exacer S.r.l. ("Exacer").

Specifically, the Agreement provides that NB Aurora Holdings, either directly or through a newly established vehicle under Italian law which it controls ("Newco"), will hold 42.75% of Exacer's share capital, acquiring the relevant shares from the majority shareholder FinExacer S.r.l. for a consideration of approximately Euro 10.5 million, including transaction costs. NB Aurora's investment in Exacer will be made entirely from its own resources.

From today and for a period of 18 (eighteen) months following the completion of the transaction, NB Aurora Holdings will have the right to syndicate, in one or more tranches, a minority shareholding in Newco.

The transaction is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2021, subject to the fulfilment of the relevant conditions precedent.

Exacer, active in the specialty chemicals business through the development and production of supports for catalysts, thanks to a significant R&D activity and a peculiar technical-productive know-how, is increasingly positioning itself, in a market characterised by the presence of large international competitors,



as a primary supplier of the most important world chemical groups thanks to the development of new supports for high quality catalysts made "ad-hoc" to meet the specific needs of each customer.

## **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 \$433 billion AUM (as of 30 June 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, Amut Group and Zeis Excelsa), the fund invested in 9 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 temperaturecontrolled 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), Veneta Cucine (Europe's leading manufacturer of fitted kitchens), Comet (leader in Italy in the development and production of tailor-made organic rubber and silicone compounds) and Farmo (italian leader in the production of gluten free, organic, plant-based and rich-in healthy packaged food for own brands, third party brands and private label channels).

For more information on NB Aurora: Image Building Cristina Fossati, Luisella Murtas, Laura Filosi

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NB Aurora S.A. SICAF-RAIF is reserved alternative investment fund (RAIF) in the form of an investment company with fixed capital (société d'investissement à capital fixe capital SICAF) as per the Luxembourg law of 26 July 2016 on reserved alternative investment funds. The information in this document does not constitute investment advice or an investment recommendation and is only a brief summary of certain key aspects of the fund.

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place of performance and the place of jurisdiction is at the Swiss representative's registered office.

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