



**Exclusive negotiations with InnovaFonds  
on the acquisition of Novasep Process Solutions**

Lyon, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

As last step of its carve out from Explora Group, we are pleased to announce that Novasep Process Solutions has entered into exclusive negotiations with InnovaFonds, in order to create an innovation driven leader, fully dedicated to provide customers within the agro-food industry with unique liquid separation and purification solutions.

The Novasep Process Solution spin-off is fully in line with InnovaFonds' strategy, supporting the development and growth of companies enjoying robust positions in market niches either in the industrials or in the industrial services sector. InnovaFonds, an independent management sponsor, positions itself as a major investor in the context of growth capital and buyout transactions. Actively involved alongside managers, InnovaFonds is acting as a business-minded financial and industrial partner.

The proposed transaction is welcomed by Bridgepoint, the current majority shareholder of Explora and Novasep Process Solutions. It remains subject to the fulfilment of customary conditions precedent for this type of transaction, including information of work councils.

Damien Brichant, President of Novasep Process Solutions said *"I am very grateful to Explora who allowed us to accelerate our transformation into an equipment supply and services-oriented company, focusing on decarbonation challenges from our customers during this carve out period. We are thrilled to partner with InnovaFonds on deploying this new and impactful offering, that will benefit to our customers through the whole life cycle of their equipment. More information to come soon."*

About InnovaFonds

Founded in 2008, InnovaFonds is an independent French private equity management company that invests through growth-capital or buy-out transactions with an entrepreneurial approach in industries and industry services. With offices both in Paris and Lyon, the company currently manages over € 350M. InnovaFonds targets leading French Small and Medium Companies, with high growth potential in France and export markets.

### About Novasep Process Solutions

Novasep Process Solutions is an historic & global supplier of purification technologies such as chromatography, ion exchange and ceramic membrane filtration. For the last 15 years, it has designed, built, and commissioned more than 600 units all over the world. The company is internationally recognized for its first-class services and consumables reliable supply, covering every step of the value chain in the life cycle of each production equipment. Based at Saint-Maurice de Beynost (near Lyon, France), Novasep Process Solutions employs 150 people.

### About Axplora

Axplora is a premier API manufacturing partner to the world's leading patient-centric pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, delivering top quality active ingredients on time and at scale, to the highest industry standards. Axplora is dedicated to helping pharmaceutical companies make critical medicines better, faster, safely, reliably, and sustainably benefitting patients worldwide. Based at Raubling (near Munich, Germany), Axplora employs 2,400 people in the world.

### About Bridgepoint

Bridgepoint Group plc is the world's leading quoted private assets growth investor focused on the middle-market with over €37 billion AUM and a local presence in the US, Europe and China, specializing in private equity and private credit. Bridgepoint invests internationally in six principal sectors – business services, consumer, financial services, healthcare, advanced industrials and technology.