



Navis Invests in Texon International Group Limited, World-Leading Manufacturer of Structural Footwear Materials

HONG KONG, April 5, 2016: Navis Capital Partners (“Navis”), a private equity firm, has completed an investment in Texon from Barclays Ventures, part of Barclays Bank PLC. Texon is the world’s leading manufacturer of structural footwear components and materials. Texon’s management team has retained a significant stake in the business.

Established in 1947, Texon has a long-standing heritage in the manufacture of high quality non-woven and cellulose materials, principally used for structural support components in footwear. Its products are synonymous within the industry for their quality, performance and reliability and can be found in over 500 million pairs of shoes manufactured each year.

Texon’s materials are crucial to the overall fit, performance and comfort of a wide range of footwear types and can be found in everything from rugged hiking boots through to high performance footwear used by world-leading professional sports players. This is why Texon is a specified and approved partner of many of the world’s leading footwear brands.

Headquartered in Hong Kong and with key production facilities in the UK, Germany and China, Texon distributes and supports its products in over 90 countries worldwide. It is a key supply chain partner to global brands supplying contract manufacturing facilities, principally in China and South East Asia.

This transaction provides new capital for the next stage of growth. The new investment will support Texon in commercialising a number of exciting and innovative material development projects, developing its presence in new markets and making acquisitions of complementary businesses.

Stan Lamb, CEO of Texon, said: “We are delighted to have concluded a transaction with Navis and look forward to great success with their backing. Their presence and relationships in Asia are highly complementary to our growth plan. I’d also like to thank the Barclays team for their pragmatic and wholehearted support over recent years to enable us to focus on growing the business to this point.”

Bruno Seghin, senior partner at Navis, said: “The market, the profile of the company as well as the competitive position built by Texon fit perfectly with Navis investment strategy. The management has secured a solid platform from which we would expand the reach of the company in terms of products, geographies and services. Having the management as an important investor increases our confidence in the success of those plans.”

Commenting, Barclays Ventures’ Director, Rupert Lyle, said: “We are very pleased with the new partner that has been secured for Texon. The management team has done an exceptional job transitioning the business into the truly global business it is today. We wish them well for the future.”

The shareholders of Texon were advised by jointly-mandated corporate finance advisors Catalyst Corporate Finance LLP in the UK and Alpha Advisory Pte Ltd in Singapore. Dentons LLP acted as legal advisers to the shareholders.

Jeremy Harrison, Industrial Partner at Catalyst, said “We’re extremely proud to have delivered this deal working as one team alongside our colleagues at Alpha. Texon has been a market leader for nearly 70 years. With a pipeline of innovative new products soon to launch, I expect their materials will continue to be a crucial, yet unseen, component of millions of pairs of shoes and trainers the world over.”

Damian Hills, Managing Director at Alpha, said “Texon has consistently delivered best in class products and services and is the market-leading brand. With Navis, the foundations for further growth are strong and we wish them well. The successful completion of this multi-faceted transaction further demonstrates the technical and cross-border advisory capabilities of Alpha and Catalyst.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

Navis Capital Partners

Founded in 1998, Navis focuses on private and public equity investments in Southeast Asia. Navis contributes both capital and management expertise to a limited number of well-positioned companies with the objective of directing strategic, operational and financial improvements. The firm manages approximately US\$5 billion in equity capital and has made 70 control investments in the region, of which about half have been exited. Navis has one of the largest private equity professional teams in Asia, comprising over 60 individuals, supported by over 30 administrative staff, in eight offices across the region.

For further information about Navis, please visit our website [Navis Capital](#)

About Barclays

Barclays is a transatlantic consumer, corporate and investment bank offering products and services across personal, corporate and investment banking, credit cards and wealth management, with a strong presence in our two home markets of the UK and the US.

With over 325 years of history and expertise in banking, Barclays operates in over 40 countries and employs approximately 130,000 people. Barclays moves, lends, invests and protects money for customers and clients worldwide.

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