

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**9<sup>th</sup> of November 2004**

**Paris, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2004. Alchimer welcomes Auriga Partners, Partech International and FCJE in a €11m second round table.**

Alchimer, a company delivering chemical solutions for ultimate nanometric coatings by electro-grafting (eG™) in the areas of integrated circuit manufacturing in micro-electronics and of the bioactive coating of medical implants, announces it has just completed a second fund raising of €11m (eleven million Euros), closing the round with Auriga Partners, Partech International and FCJE (CDC Entreprises) and historical investors AGF Private Equity, Rothschild, SPEF Venture and CEA Valorisation.

*"This fund raising is completed as the penetration of our technology of electro-grafting (eG™) is beyond expectations in our micro-electronics applications for the manufacturing of integrated circuits,"* says Christophe Bureau, C.E.O. and co-founder of Alchimer.

*"Electro-grafting (eG™) is already perceived, by major semi-conductor players in Europe, Asia and in the USA, as a true robust and cost-effective-by-construction alternative, in front of traditional new process providers working in the highly restricted club of submicronic deposits for the semi-conductor industry. The more Giga-Hertz we want in our computers the smaller the structures in our processors: we come to an era of the ultimate, when the industrial mastering of interfaces at the atomic scale is a matter of business survival. In this era, the technology of Alchimer shows outstanding performances that could well make it tomorrow's reference and standard."*, adds François Breniaux, General Manager and co-founder of the company.

*"In the meanwhile, the spreading of our activities in the biomedical sector benefits both from the very high pressure felt by our customers to have a quick positioning on their own market, as well as from the efforts on development and process engineering of our technology since our first fund raising. The closing of this prestigious round table is a positive sign of confidence from both our historical investors and our new shareholders, and constitutes a decisive boost in the management of our growth."*, Christophe Bureau concludes.

**AGF Private Equity, Rothschild, SPEF-Venture, CEA-Valorisation:** *"Since our initial investment in 2002, Christophe Bureau has proven his entrepreneurial skills. The markets targeted by the company were confirmed and new opportunities have been identified. We are very pleased that the work of Alchimer's team has made possible an important and prestigious new round of financing. We are convinced that in the coming months Alchimer will deliver the results expected in association with this funding."*, remarks Nicolas Chaudron, Investment Director at AGF Private Equity, on behalf of the initial financial investors.

**Auriga Partners :** *"We were very impressed by the exceptional management quality, the robust technology and the huge markets... We therefore quickly made our mind to join Alchimer for its next development steps. We are also very confident that the quality of the shareholder pool will enable the financial and business support which the company will need in the future."*, adds François Lainée, IT partner with Auriga Partners.

**Partech International :** *"We were convinced by Alchimer's very strong IP and sophisticated know-how (and their approach to make surfaces 'smarter'), its ambitious management and the strategic markets they address. All ingredients for success are there"*, adds Jean-Marc Patouillaud, general partner with Partech International.

**FCJE :** *"We have been convinced by the technology breakthrough brought by Alchimer's solutions in various fields like in micro-electronics and medical devices which are particularly promising. The team is also of high quality."*, adds Cédric Lowenbach, Investment Director within Fonds de Co-investissement pour les Jeunes Entreprises.



### **About Alchimer**

Alchimer, spun-off in 2001 from the french Center for Atomic Energy (Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique, CEA-Saclay), designs, develops, packages and commercializes specific chemical formulations, as well as plug-and-play processes enabling the fixing of specific coatings on surfaces, in particular at ultimate dimensions, down to the submicronic and nanometric scale.

On the basis of 20 filed patents, partly owned by the Company and partly emanating from the CEA, the CNRS and from european research institutions, Alchimer is more specifically positioned in the functionalization of conducting and semi-conducting surfaces by electro-grafting (eG™) processes.

The business model of Alchimer is based on the sale of chemical consumables to enable our customers to make, on their own and at their production site, coatings having specific properties, especially developed for their products. The technologies of Grafting (eG™, cG™...), property of Alchimer, are proposed to our customers via license agreements for the use of coating devices compatible with the specificities of Grafting processes, and insuring the reproducible implementation of the unprecedented properties of Grafting and of Alchimer's know-how in surface science mastering.

Alchimer is presently targeting two application sectors:

- micro-electronics, and more precisely the fabrication of ultimate layers in the manufacturing of integrated circuits for processor generations of the 65 nanometer technology node, 45 nanometer and beyond;
- biomedical implants, and more particularly the fabrication of drug eluting layers for vascular implants (stents).

Alchimer has 26 employees working in its facility in Massy (91).

[www.alchimer.com](http://www.alchimer.com)

### **About Auriga Partners**

Auriga Partners is an independent venture capital fund, with an investment strategy focused on early stage financing of innovative high growth potential ventures, both in life sciences and information technology. Auriga manages about 180 M€, split between the funds Auriga Ventures I and Auriga Ventures II.

### **About Partech International**

Founded in 1982, Partech International is a leading international venture capital firm with \$650M under active management, focusing on US, European and Israeli investments. Partech invests exclusively in companies with high return potential and disruptive technologies in Information Technology with primary focus on Software, Communications and Components. The firm has a unique 20+ year track record of assisting its portfolio companies in becoming global leaders. Some of Partech's successful investments include: Ascend Communications, Alvarion, Business Objects, Cadence, CSG Systems, Digital Island, Informatica, Pentasafe and Vignette.

### **About FCJE (CDC Entreprises)**

Created in February 2002, FCJE (Joint Investment Fund for Young Enterprises) consists of 90 million euros equally invested by the French state, the European Investment Fund, and France's Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations. The objective of the FCJE is to take minority interests in French high-tech companies that are less than seven years old, at the request of and alongside investment funds operating in countries in the European Union.

### **About AGF Private Equity**

AGF Private Equity, a subsidiary of the AGF insurance company, member of the Allianz Group, is specialized in non-listed investments. The company manages an investment portfolio close to €1Bn, is among the leaders in France in managing funds of funds, and is also one of the most active investors in Venture Capital. The Venture Capital team has invested in 50 high tech companies. AGF Private Equity invests €20 Mn each year in innovative firms. With close to €200 Mn under management in its Venture Capital activity, AGF Private Equity is an active partner of growth companies.



### About Rothschild

The Rothschild Group has been at the center of the world's financial markets for over 200 years. Today, it provides corporate and resource banking, treasury, investment banking, fund management, private banking and trust services to governments, corporations and individuals worldwide. Through 56 offices in 37 countries, from the Americas through Europe to Australia, clients can access Rothschild ideas and expertise. Through its Paris-based Private Equity office, the Rothschild Group invests in first-class projects lead by exceptional entrepreneurs, mainly in the Micro-technologies, Telecom and Software sectors.

### About SPEF Venture

Natexis Banques Populaires group is an active partner of companies with high growth potential, SPEF Venture has been investing in innovating sectors since 1997. SPEF Venture manages some 320 M€ and invests in Life Sciences and new information technologies across the whole of Europe through 8 Banque Populaire Innovation FCPIs and 2 FCPR. The 16 professional investors at SPEF Venture have extensive experience and strong skills and knowledge in the areas of Life Sciences and NTIC, capital investment operations, industrial transfers and stock market introductions.

For more information, visit: [www.spef-venture.fr](http://www.spef-venture.fr)

### About CEA Valorisation

CEA Valorisation SA is the subsidiary of the French public R&D Establishment « Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique » (CEA), devoted to worldwide technology licensing as well as investment in equity in innovative start-up (pre-seed to early stage) companies originating from CEA IP and know-how.

For more informations, please visit : [www.cea-valorisation.com](http://www.cea-valorisation.com)

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