

Paris, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## Vincent Gardès, former CEO of VEXIM, joins Truffle Capital



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**Paris, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - Truffle Capital, an independent venture capital firm focused on creating and financing start-ups with disruptive technologies in life sciences and information technology, announces today the recruitment of Vincent Gardès. Vincent (45 years old) will join Truffle Capital's BioMedTech team as a Senior Partner, under the leadership of Philippe Pouletty, M.D. The BioMedTech team also includes Alain Chevallier and Antoine Pau. Vincent Gardès, former CEO of VEXIM, will generate new investments in the field of medical devices for Truffle Capital's new BioMedTech fund. With his strong entrepreneurial and international management background, he will actively support Truffle portfolio companies.

*"My work relationship with Truffle Capital goes back many years, to the days when I was hired as CEO of VEXIM, company founded by Truffle Capital and acquired by Stryker Corporation in April 2018 for 183 million euros. Having recently left VEXIM, I am now delighted to be on the other side of the fence and start building, with our BioMedTech Fund and other Truffle Funds, new companies dedicated to revolutionizing interventional mini-invasive medicine",* said Vincent Gardès.

Philippe Pouletty, Alain Chevallier, and Antoine Pau added: *"We are very happy to welcome Vincent Gardès and look forward to benefit from his global expertise in interventional medicine and medical devices. At Truffle Capital, we proud ourselves to be both entrepreneurs and investors, and source radical innovations in the top universities in the US and Europe to create, in France, future global market leaders. What makes Truffle Capital and our BioMedTech team strength and added value for our portfolio companies is the complementarity of our skills."*

After joining Stryker in 1995, Vincent Gardès held various sales and marketing positions of increasing responsibility in Europe for Stryker Orthopedics & Stryker Spine, including as Sales Director of the Group's Spanish subsidiary and as Global Marketing Director of its Spine division, between 1996 and 2002. In 2002, Vincent joined Medtronic as Director of the Spine Europe Division, leading the product development and marketing activities. In 2004, he was promoted to Director of Medtronic France's Spine & Biologics Business Unit, before being in charge in 2007 with the whole Southern Europe area. In 2008, Vincent became Managing Director for Spain and Portugal at CR Bard and, in 2011, was appointed as CEO of VEXIM, where he led the company's IPO in 2012 and managed its clinical, industrial and commercial development. VEXIM's flagship product, SpineJack, became the leading product to treat vertebral compression fractures in France and has been approved in the United States in August 2018. In Europe, the product has already captured 15% market share.

Vincent is a graduate of INSEEC Business School in Bordeaux and holds a Master's degree in Leadership Capability from Glasgow Caledonian University. A French citizen, he is fluent in English and Spanish. Since March 2018, Vincent Gardès has also been Chairman of AFFLUENT MEDICAL, a Truffle Capital company.

Truffle Capital has already created and financed 3 companies with its new BioMedTech Fund over the last few months: **HoliStick Medical**, **ArteDrone** and **Nanosive**. In total, a dozen BioMedTech companies could be financed by Truffle Capital with its new Fund and other co-investment funds.

Since the creation of Truffle Capital, more than twenty MedTech and BioTech companies have been financed, most of them being founded or co-founded by Truffle. Many companies are now listed on the stock market or have been acquired by corporate partners. Nearly 100,000 patients have already been treated with new medical devices or drugs developed by these companies.

#### **About Truffle Capital**

Founded in 2001, Truffle Capital is an independent, European venture capital firm focused on disruptive technologies in life sciences (BioTech and MedTech) and IT (FinTech and InsurTech). Truffle Capital aims to support the creation and growth of young innovative companies with the potential to become tomorrow's market leaders. Chaired by Patrick Kron, alongside the company's founders and CEOs, Philippe Pouletty, M.D. and Bernard-Louis Roques, Truffle Capital currently manages € 450 M (close to €1 billion since inception) and has supported over 80 companies since its creation, in the digital technologies and life sciences sectors. At the end of 2017, Truffle Capital successfully completed the first close of its two new institutional funds, Truffle Financial Innovation Fund<sup>1</sup> and Truffle BioMedTech Fund<sup>2</sup>, as well as the first close of a fund dedicated to the French Reserve Fund (Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites ou FRR).

**Find out more:** [www.truffle.com](http://www.truffle.com) – Twitter: [@trufflecapital](https://twitter.com/trufflecapital)

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<sup>1</sup> See press release distributed, November 16, 2017: <http://www.truffle.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CP-Truffle1erClosingFinTech-16-11-2017.pdf> (French only)

<sup>2</sup> See press release distributed, January 10, 2018: [http://truffle.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/PR\\_BioMed\\_Vdef.pdf](http://truffle.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/PR_BioMed_Vdef.pdf)