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PRESS RELEASE

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To support its ambitions for international growth, CPA Group changes its name to Nivalis Group.

CPA Group announces its name change and reveals a new corporate identity.

"We are changing our name to support our international expansion and because our current name does not reflect our core business. Indeed, in a lot of English-speaking countries "CPA" stands for "Certified Public Accountant", which we are not. In addition, there was confusion between the CPA Group holding company and CPAutomation, one of our daughter companies. After 20 years of existence, the time was right to brush up our image and our communication, and to ensure they are fully in line with our present and future activities." says Nicolas Corsi, CEO of Nivalis Group.

The Nivalis Group

The name Nivalis is derived from *Galanthus Nivalis*, the scientific name for the Snowdrop. This plant, by its ability to pierce a light layer of snow, is the first to bloom at the end of winter. It symbolizes the capacity of young companies to create opportunities in a hostile environment. The Snowdrop reflects important values to the Nivalis Group: unparalleled courage, a pioneering spirit, vibrant dynamism and a touch of Swissness.

Nivalis Group actively accompanies and invests in high-tech start-ups that specialize in automation, robotics, additive manufacturing and artificial intelligence. Based in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, the Group, with its state-of-the-art technology park and comprehensive support services, offers young companies a unique environment to innovate, develop, manufacture and market products quickly and efficiently on an international level. Encouraging synergies and forging collaborative interactions between the existing talents across the different entities, Nivalis Group fosters innovative, agile, profitable and prosperous companies.

The Nivalis Group activities are summarized in its slogan, *Together we grow.*

Successful exits

Since 1999, Nivalis Group has known several success stories. One of these is Solvix, whose generators are used on a global scale for thin film depositions on flat screens of smartphones, photovoltaic solar panels or prescription glasses. Also worth mentioning is ViDi Systems, who developed the first software based on artificial intelligence and designed specifically for the analysis of images in the industrial and medical field. This technology of automated real-time visual inspection can be used in a wide array of sectors, from the identification of an aesthetic anomaly on a watch dials to detecting a tumor on a chest X-ray.

Solvix and ViDi Systems were each acquired by a different US Group, global leaders in their respective domain. These transactions enabled the global expansion of the technologies that were developed in the Canton of Fribourg (CH) and allowed for a continuation of the associated jobs.

Growth prospects for 2019

In 2018, the Nivalis Group's activities grew by more than 20%, and the outlook for 2019 is even more promising. With their position as technology leader and their growing international success, the Group's daughter companies Asyрил, CPAutomation and regenHU have a bright future ahead.

Asyрил knows a fast-growing market demand in the United States and Asia with subcontractors of consumer electronics and manufacturers of medical devices amongst others. Asyрил's flexible feeding systems enable the optimal distribution of small bulk parts into assembly machines.

RegenHU, a pioneer in life science, uses its 3D printers to enable cutting-edge research in biotechnology and tissue engineering. The most prestigious research centers in regenerative medicine around the world are equipped with RegenHU solutions and make scientific and clinical breakthroughs thanks to these instruments.

The standardized turnkey automation platforms of CPAutomation offer industrial automation solutions for a broad spectrum of customers, from watchmakers to medical implant manufacturers. Their unique expertise in micro-manipulation, micro-welding and visual inspection is at the core of a range of machines that are Industry 4.0 ready.

The Nivalis Group continues to support each of its daughter companies and intends to maintain its position as leader in the engineering sciences industry by investing in new start-ups in 2019.

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