



## **PRESS RELEASE**

22 July 2010

### **Cobepa invests in Novescia, alongside the founding shareholders, in order to boost its growth within the French medical diagnostics market**

Novescia, one of France's leading routine diagnostics groups, has invited Cobepa, a privately-held investment company based in Brussels and currently managing a diversified investment portfolio worth about Euro 1.1 billion, to participate to its latest capital increase intended to support the group's development, in partnership with its Management and the existing shareholders.

Cobepa now controls indirectly 10% of the share capital of Novescia, whilst the existing shareholders have also subscribed massively to the current funding round.

#### **About Novescia**

Since its creation in 2008, Novescia has achieved very fast growth and has been able to successfully close a significant amount of acquisitions in France, thanks to an innovative business model combining a true partnership with biologists and an industrial approach. After having integrated about 60 laboratories, Novescia recently reached an important milestone in the Group's development with the acquisition of the medical diagnostics pole of Générale de Santé, comprising 25 clinical laboratories. With a view to continue the Group's expansion strategy based on acquisitions of independent laboratories, Novescia has chosen to partner with Cobepa amongst others, convinced of the added value provided by this partner.

[www.novescia.fr](http://www.novescia.fr)

#### **About Cobepa**

Cobepa is an independent, privately-held investment company based in Brussels, currently managing a diversified investment portfolio valued at around Euro 1.1 billion. Active since 1957, Cobepa has participated to numerous transactions and has demonstrated its ability to successfully support the development of industrial ventures in a culture of partnership, in particular by investing in minority stakes. Following its recent exit from Belron (the world's largest vehicle glass replacement and repair company using the Carglass and Autoglass brands), Cobepa's most significant shareholdings include an 8% stake in D'Ieteren (Belgian diversified automotive services group), a 20% stake in Carmeuse (second largest global lime products manufacturer), a 40% stake in JF Hillebrand (global leader in freight forwarding services for the alcoholic beverages and industrial liquids segments), an 18% stake in International SOS (global leader in organising the provision of medical assistance and security services for the personnel of multinational corporations) and a 9% stake in Bank Degroof (Belgium's largest independent wealth manager).

[www.cobepa.be](http://www.cobepa.be)

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