



Iris Capital and I-Source exit Let It Wave

On June 13th, 2008, Venture Capital investors Iris Capital and I-Source have divested French semiconductor video processing company Let It Wave to Zoran Corporation (NASDAQ:ZRAN) for up US\$27.6 million in an all cash transaction which includes earn-out provisions.

Let It Wave was founded in 2001 by Professor Stéphane Mallat, Dr. Christophe Bernard, Dr. Jérôme Kalifa, and Professor Erwan Le Pennec at Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, to develop breakthrough image-processing capabilities for video products based on Bandlet technology. In 2002, the company won the first national prize for innovation awarded by the French Research and Technology Ministry and also won the prestigious 2005 European Information Science Technology Grand Prize, a competition involving entrants from 29 European countries. Since 2006, Let It Wave has raised €6 million from Iris Capital, I-Source and private investors.

“Let It Wave has had an exceptional development during the past two years”, said Prof. Stéphane Mallat. “With Zoran, our technology will have a wider impact, delivering high quality images for flat panel television and other video consumer electronics products. Through the Let It Wave team based in Paris, France, Zoran is creating a European R&D and operation center that will continue to grow.”

“It has been great to be part of the development of Let It Wave. An exceptional team, gathering very smart founders, world-class engineers and seasoned managers, is at the heart of this success”, said Pierre de Fouquet, Managing Partner of Iris Capital. “This strategic acquisition is very positive for French semiconductor research and industry: it establishes in Paris a new semiconductor European leader”.

“Let It Wave and its management are demonstrating the capacity of a pure French technology based start-up to attract quick investment from international leaders”, said François-René Letourneur, Partner at I-Source. “Both companies can now develop and market together world-class products on a worldwide basis”.

The vendors were advised by Gide Loyrette Nouel (Legal: Pierre Karpik) and BLA (Investment Bank: Robert Lensch) in the transaction.

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About Iris Capital

Iris Capital is a pan-European venture and development capital fund specialising in media, communication and IT. Since its inception in 1986, the Iris Capital team has invested in over 200 companies a total of more than €800 million. Iris Capital targets opportunities in high-growth technology or service companies, across various stages of development. It provides active support to its portfolio companies related to its specialisation and its experience. Based in Paris, the Iris Capital team has invested to date in 18 European countries.

For additional information, see www.iriscapital.com

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About I-Source

I-Source is a venture capital firm dedicated to seed and start-up financing in high growth potential companies operating in the area of Information and Communication Technology, stemming from public and private research centers.

With close to 60 investments made over the last 10 years, with 6 funds totaling 172 million euros under management, I-Source covers the following sectors: Infrastructure and internet services, Corporate software, Contents and Media Technologies, Communication Systems and related services and Embedded Systems. The management team combines a wide experience in venture capital and a vast operational experience (Management, Technological Project Management, Marketing and Sales).

For additional information, see www.isourcegestion.fr

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