

## PRESS RELEASE

### JUNCTION GROWTH INVESTORS SUCCESFULLY CLOSES ITS FIRST FUND AT 115 M€

- Junction's final closing of its first fund at 115 M€, surpasses the initial target of 100 M€
- The focus is on providing growth and buyout capital to European energy transition scale-ups and SMEs, a segment still lacking funding and in need of accelerating at scale
- The fund is backed by notable investors including Keeling Capital, BNP Paribas Fortis Private Equity, European Investment Fund, PMV, and Belgian Growth Fund
- Junction is an Article 9 fund with a clear sustainable objective and has already deployed capital in seven investments, all within dedicated verticals such as grid enhancing technologies, B2B installers (PV & storage), sustainable buildings, and others

**Antwerp, Belgium (February 11, 2025).** Junction Growth Investors is pleased to announce the successful closing of its first fund at 115 M€, surpassing its initial target of 100 M€ despite a highly challenging funding environment. The fund is backed by a series of large family offices including some of the owners of AB-Inbev, and Umicore, as well as well-known technology entrepreneurs, Jan-Willem Rombouts, Gregoire de Strel and Jean-Guillaume Zurstrassen amongst others. Most recently, the global specialist investment fund-of-fund Keeling Capital amongst others decided to join the capital. Through its fund of funds, Keeling sources, selects, and underwrites leading managers dedicated to climate technology.

"Junction Growth Investors' distinctive approach to venture investing and deep domain expertise in building and scaling energy businesses make them an ideal partner as we work to accelerate the growth of innovative climate tech companies," said Ross Madden, Partner at Keeling Capital. "Their hands-on approach, industry knowledge, and extensive network will enable portfolio companies to build some of the most scalable and commercially successful, asset-light climate solutions in Europe."

Also major institutional investors such as the European Investment Fund (EIF), BNP Paribas Fortis Private Equity, PMV and Belgian Growth Fund are among the fund's investors. The fund was supported by Argo Law and Private CFO advisory, amongst others.

The Antwerp-based investor was founded in the summer of 2022 by a group of award-winning entrepreneurs, CEOs Bruno Vanderschueren (ex-Lampiris) and Pieter-Jan Mermans (ex-REstore), complemented by seasoned investment professionals Dirk Dewals (ex-Gimv) and Vincent Gregoir (ex-Inven Capital). Both Vincent Gregoir (through Sonnen), as well as Pieter-Jan Mermans (through REstore), were winners of the prestigious Cleantech Deal of the Year awards in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Junction continues to commit its resources to Industrialize and scale European scale-ups and SMEs which play a crucial role in the energy transition, either through minority or majority growth capital, with equity tickets ranging up to 15 M€ per deal. Since its inception, the team, now comprising eight investment professionals, has deployed capital into seven investments across distinct verticals identified as crucial to accelerate the energy transition

which include, for example: grid enhancing technologies, B2B installers, sustainable buildings, (home) energy management systems and decarbonization of industry.

Dirk Dewals, Managing Partner at Junction summarizes: "Climate change continues to advance, leaving tangible impacts on societies and personal wealth. However, the energy transition is not solely about combating climate change. It also presents a pivotal opportunity for Europe to reduce its dependence on geopolitically sensitive carbon fuels and to build a couple of European technology leaders with global reach such as Ampacimon, which has 50% of its order book in the USA. We firmly believe that electrification, particularly in the B2B sector, will play a crucial role in driving this shift, and we are actively seeking enablers to accelerate this revolution."

With **Ampacimon** (BE) and **Eneida** (PT), the fund holds two truly international investments in high- and low-voltage grid enhancing technologies enabling low-capex grid expansion as well as further adoption of renewables and distributed assets.

These investments are complemented with two investments headquartered in the DACH region. **Eturnity** (CH) which provides software solutions for increasing efficiency and digitalization of installers, wholesalers, and manufacturers active in renewable energy systems and **EET** (AT) which offers an easy-to-use smart plug-in battery solution to apartments and renters looking for savings on their energy bill, enabling this underserved segment to play their part in the energy transition.

Furthermore, **Hysopt** (BE) is a Software-as-a-Service solution which enables the engineering and simulation of large complex HVAC systems in commercial and industrial real estate optimizing energy and reducing carbon emissions, while Belgian "De Tijd Changemaker" nominee **Haulogy** (BE) offers a suite of software solutions to Distribution System Operators (DSOs) and energy utilities, including asset and field services management solutions, as well as congestion/flexibility management solutions. Through its most recent buyout of **Solora** (BE), together with co-investor BNP Fortis Private Equity, Junction now also acts as majority shareholder of a leading B2B installation and maintenance provider for commercial- and industrial-scale solar panel and battery energy storage systems, across the Benelux and France.

Stephan Heberer, CEO of Ampacimon, concludes on a highly synergetic relationship since Junction's investment: "Junction's deep industry expertise and extensive network have been instrumental in our latest growth acceleration and global scaling of our solutions. Thanks to their partnership, we successfully attracted Neil Chatterjee, former Chairman of the US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), as a board member for Ampacimon. Their involvement has been a game-changer for our company, and we look forward to continued success together."

# Junction



Junction Growth Investors' team now comprises of eight investment professionals (left to right): Barbara Cousséé, Bruno Vanderschueren, Vincent Gregoir, Pieter-Jan Mermans, William Van Mael, Ruben Lorer, Dirk Dewals and Daan Van Parys

# Junction

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## **About Junction:**

*Junction Growth Investors is a long-term, sustainable investment fund (art 9, SFDR) focused on non-listed European SMEs and scale-ups that play a crucial role in the energy transition. Junction is not about the early stage and not about financial engineering.*

*At Junction, we believe in scaling great things that have already been invented and invest with a sense of urgency about climate change. We believe we need to speed things up. We need to transition, not just set goals.*

*Junction is a combination of award-winning entrepreneurs, CEOs and investors with a track-record in successful energy (-tech) businesses, incl. Lampiris, REstore, sonnen, tiko and Tado.*

<https://junctiongrowthinvestors.com/>