



CRISTAL UNION strengthens its financial structure with the support of UNIGRAINS

UNIGRAINS invests via quasi-equity in the sugar cooperative group

Paris, September 9th, 2019 – UNIGRAINS, the agri-food and agro-industry specialized investor, has invested via quasi-equity in the sugar cooperative CRISTAL UNION. This transaction strengthens the Group's financial structure with long-term resources to support its transformation in the context of a new balance in the sugar sector, notably following the end of European quotas in October 2017. UNIGRAINS' commitment comforts CRISTAL UNION in its long-term strategy.

One of the leading European sugar and alcohol producers, the CRISTAL UNION cooperative group counts 10 000 members, representing 180 000 hectares of beet crops. It processes agricultural raw materials (beets, wheat, alfalfa) and markets four types of products: sugar, ethanol, bioethanol and pulp for animal feed. With its proprietary brands including Daddy, the number one French sugar brand, Erstein in Alsace and Eridania in Italy, as well as its 2 200 employees, CRISTAL UNION generates sales of around 1.7 billion euros.

Alain COMMISSAIRE, CEO of CRISTAL UNION, declared: *"UNIGRAINS' support is a mark of confidence which testifies to the convergence of views between UNIGRAINS and CRISTAL UNION. This investment in quasi-equity reinforces our financial structure and will contribute to the implementation of a strategy designed to meet the challenges we face and to best value beet production in the interest of our Cooperators."*



About UNIGRAINS

For over 55 years, UNIGRAINS has accompanied the development of agri-food and agro-industry companies providing tailor-made financial solutions in equity and quasi-equity, as well as contributing its recognized industry expertise. UNIGRAINS manages roughly 1 billion euros and is a partner for nearly 120 companies, operating at various stages of their development, notably capital restructurings, strategic investments and acquisitions, and ensuring national and international growth.

For more information: www.unigrains.fr

About CRISTAL UNION

The CRISTAL UNION group is among the leading European sugar and alcohol producers. It operates primarily in France with a significant share of its sales internationally. CRISTAL UNION is a cooperative, which gathers ten thousand cooperative beet growers and more than two thousand employees. CRISTAL UNION has a long-term strategy. It combines a keen awareness of the socially-responsible economy (strong involvement in environmental and social issues), local ties (proximity between beet growing areas and factories) and an active research and development policy (exploration of innovative production paths geared towards the future, completion of external growth operations and establishment of international commercial and industrial partnerships, etc.).

For more information: www.cristal-union.fr

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