

Paris, 12 April 2005

**Press release**

**Crédit Agricole Private Equity's Venture Capital division  
expands its Biotechnology team**

Crédit Agricole Private Equity's Venture Capital division is continuing to build up its Biotechnology portfolio. Created four years ago under the leadership of **Dr Philippe Guinot, MD, PhD\***, the portfolio currently comprises 12 companies based in Europe, mostly in France.

These investments have been made in partnership with established investors such as Sofinova, Healthcap, Index Venture, Axa PE and Sgam.

Crédit Agricole Private Equity's main areas of interest are new therapeutic approaches in cancer, asthma and infectious diseases, as well as opportunities in the production, medical technology and innovative pharmaceuticals sectors.

**Alexia Perouse** joined Crédit Agricole Private Equity in January 2005 as Investment Director for the life sciences sector.

She holds a post-graduate diploma in Neuroscience and a General Management diploma from Lyon University and Business School.

She began her career in 1996 as head of research at Chiron Vaccines. She then became head of projects at Parteurop Développement for two years, where she was involved in helping the operations of biotechnology start-ups and enhancing the value of innovative companies. In 1999, she joined Sofinova Partners as business manager, where for five years she played an active role in identifying opportunities and investment decisions in the life sciences sector.

**Guillaume Dupont** joined Crédit Agricole Private Equity at the end of 2004 as business manager.

A graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique, he was involved in the synthesis of new compounds at the optimisation laboratory of Syngenta's chemicals division in Basel in 2003.

In 2004, he continued his studies at Stanford University in California, where he obtained a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering and simultaneously conducted research into reactions between amino acids and semiconductors under Professor Musgrave.

*Photos are available upon request from Crédit Agricole Private Equity*

***About Crédit Agricole Private Equity***

*Crédit Agricole Private Equity is the asset management company of Crédit Agricole S.A., dedicated to private equity investments in unlisted companies.*

*35 professionals specialising in four activity segments (Expansion Capital & LBO, Venture Capital, Secondary Market, Mezzanine) manage €1,050 billion under French private equity mutual funds (FCPR and FCPI) and private equity companies (SCR). Crédit Agricole Private Equity advises business managers on their growth plans.*

*\* Medical Doctor – Doctor of Philosophy – Doctor of Life Sciences*

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**Crédit Agricole Private Equity - Communication**

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