

## **BLAUWTRUST GROEP TO WELCOME BLACKFIN CAPITAL PARTNERS AS NEW MAJORITY SHAREHOLDER TO SUPPORT THE COMPANY'S CONTINUED GROWTH**

Blauwtrust Groep B.V. is pleased to announce that BlackFin Capital Partners SA and the company have agreed on a transaction in which BlackFin acquires a majority stake, in order to support the company's future growth. Financial terms of the transaction are not disclosed.

Founded in 1985 and headquartered in Capelle aan den IJssel, the Netherlands, Blauwtrust Groep is the leading independent Dutch player in mortgage servicing and distribution. Blauwtrust Groep is active in all parts of the mortgage value chain through:

- De Hypotheker: the largest independent mortgage broker in the Netherlands with a network of franchisees operating 178 offices throughout the country;
- Conneqt: a fast growing distribution manager with more than 600 independent mortgage advisors on Conneqt's platform;
- DMPM: a fast-growing platform enabling direct investment into the Dutch mortgage market for institutional investors, managing an active portfolio of over €11 bn;
- Quion: the largest independent servicer of residential mortgages and consumer credits in the Netherlands with over €75 bn of assets under management.

Blauwtrust Groep is the only player with a full-service offering from investors to consumers.

Upon closing BlackFin will become majority shareholder of Blauwtrust Groep alongside one of the founding families, who has agreed to stay in the transaction too, ensuring continuity. Shareholders and management are planning to accelerate the expansion of the group by further investing in the company's platforms and capabilities and by expanding the service offering to its customers.

Johan van der Werf, Chairman of the Non-executive Board of Blauwtrust Groep, commented: *"With BlackFin's expertise and additional financial resources committed to Blauwtrust Groep by BlackFin, we will be best placed to fulfill our customers' needs and to extend the capabilities of our leading platforms. We believe that this transaction is highly beneficial to the company and all stakeholders, as it will ensure a safe continuity. Together with BlackFin and the dedication and efforts of our employees and business partners, I am confident that Blauwtrust Groep is ideally positioned for the future and will continue to deliver the highest service levels towards our customers going forward."*

Damien Lestang, Partner at BlackFin, commented: *"We are delighted to become shareholder of Blauwtrust Groep. At BlackFin, we have developed a long-term vision and strong commitment in the European residential mortgage market and Blauwtrust Groep is best positioned in Europe. The company benefits from a strong management team, superior IT, platforms and systems and a strong and loyal client base. Alongside one of the founding families, we are very confident that Blauwtrust Groep can further build out its leadership, fueled by our experience in supporting growing companies."*

The transaction is subject to regulatory approval.

For this transaction sellers are advised by Axeco and Loyens & Loeff, and BlackFin is advised by Aperghis & Co and Stek.

**For further questions, please contact:**

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**About Blauwtrust Groep B.V.**

Blauwtrust Groep connects the housing related supply and demand for residential mortgage funding in the Netherlands through its entities De Hypotheker, Dutch Mortgage Portfolio Management DMPM, Conneqt, and Quion. With 35 years of experience and over 800 employees, the Blauwtrust Groep has built up a solid position in the Dutch residential mortgage market by providing investors, intermediaries and consumers with high quality products and services. [www.blauwtrustgroep.com](http://www.blauwtrustgroep.com)

**About BlackFin Capital Partners SAS**

With AuM of c. €2 bn, BlackFin is the leading private equity platform dedicated to growing companies in the financial services industry in Europe, including distribution & brokerage, business process outsourcing, software-payments, capital markets and asset management. BlackFin has extensive expertise in the financial services industry having created, managed and invested in several successful companies on a global scale. Today, they are supported by a team of 40 professionals with offices in Paris, Brussels, Frankfurt and Amsterdam and a large network of executive advisors and experts. Blauwtrust Groep will be BlackFin's 4<sup>th</sup> investment in the Netherlands after CED (insurance claim management), Buckaroo (payment service provider) and Friss (insurance fraud detection). [www.blackfin.com](http://www.blackfin.com)