



BlueGem acquires The Private Clinic Group

London, 1 February 2008 – Today BlueGem L.P. has acquired the entire share capital of The Private Clinic Group (“The Private Clinic” or the “Company”) from Mr. Brendan Kearney, founder and Chairman of the Company.

The Private Clinic operates 2 cosmetic surgery clinics in London (Harley Street) and Manchester and has been operating for over 25 years.

The Company is focused on safe, modern, non-invasive cosmetic treatments and specializes in the field of laser and radio frequency treatments for snoring and breathing problems, working with some of the most experienced ENT Consultant Surgeons in the UK.

The Company also offers a very broad portfolio of aesthetic treatments including hair removal, anti-ageing skin treatments, chemical peels, acne scars treatments and cellulite reduction.

The Company will be run by Chrissie Banstead, the new CEO who joined the Company in the context of the acquisition.

Starting from a relatively low level of penetration within the UK (2% of the UK population), the cosmetic surgery industry is booming, in particular in the non-surgical, non-invasive segment of the business.

According to a Mintel report, The Private Clinic market in the UK is estimated to be worth approximately £659 million in 2007 (+22% vs 2006) and £912m in 2009 (+70% vs 2006 with ca. 20% CAGR).

The UK market benefits from an underlying strong growth trend driven by increasing awareness among people about technology and procedures, increasing acceptance of minimally invasive surgery both by patients and by Surgeons and increasing age and disease-related problems due to aging population.

Therefore, The Private Clinic can tap significant growth opportunities in the UK market, also considering the very fragmented nature of the industry with approx. 700 clinics/Surgeons performing cosmetic surgery treatments.

The Private Clinic represents the first investment executed in the UK by BlueGem Capital Partners (“BlueGem”), the management company of BlueGem L.P..

BlueGem L.P. is a private equity fund with capital commitment of €205 million formed on 17 May 2007 by former Merrill Lynch professionals to make private equity investments in mid-market companies with enterprise value between €20 - €300 million in the UK and in Italy.