
PRESS RELEASE

Saint-Genis-Pouilly, France – October 20, 2026

Nicolas Gauly, Octalfa, PurpleShares and the Fonds Régional Avenir Industrie Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes join forces to acquire Bergoz Instrumentation, the world's leading specialist in non-destructive measurement of charged-particle beams.

Nicolas Gauly, owner-manager, and Octalfa, a Lyon-based family office, announce the acquisition of Bergoz Instrumentation, a company based in Saint-Genis-Pouilly (Ain, France) that has designed and manufactured particle-beam measurement instruments for medical, industrial and research accelerators for more than forty years.

PurpleShares, which invested in the transaction and helped structure its financing, will remain committed alongside Nicolas Gauly and Octalfa to support the company's growth. It will also set up and run Bergoz Instrumentation's employee share ownership program. The Fonds Régional Avenir Industrie Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (FRAI), advised by UI Investissement, is also part of the investor group, together with several company employees and the seller, Etienne Touzain.

A GLOBAL REFERENCE

Founded in 1981 by physicist Julien Bergoz, Bergoz Instrumentation specializes in non-destructive, low-current measurement solutions for particle accelerators. Its sensors are installed in most of the world's major research accelerators, and increasingly in accelerators for medical and industrial applications. Bergoz Instrumentation is an innovative company with 13 employees that generates more than 90% of its revenue internationally. Etienne Touzain, who has led the company since 2018, organized Bergoz's production system, expanded its commercial activity – notably in Asia – and built its quality management system (ISO 9001 and 13485) to meet the most demanding standards of its customers.

A JOINT ACQUISITION PROJECT BUILT FOR THE LONG TERM

The project took shape following the meeting between Nicolas Gauly – an engineer by training, former plant manager and senior executive who was exploring opportunities to acquire a technology company with the support of PurpleShares – and Octalfa, an active group holding company that invests for the long term in companies with strong know-how to support their growth.

Nicolas Gauly and Octalfa will work as a team, the former as Chief Executive Officer and the latter as lead shareholder and Chair of Bergoz Instrumentation. Their shared ambition: to consolidate the company's position as the reference supplier for major research projects, and to meet the growing need for non-destructive measurement in its new industrial and medical markets.

THEY SAID

“Acquiring Bergoz Instrumentation is both a source of pride and a responsibility. The company combines rare strengths: a team of exceptional quality, outstanding know-how recognized by the world’s leading laboratories, and a global reach. I thank Etienne Touzain for his trust, as well as the partners who are committing alongside me. Our ambition is clear: to preserve this excellence and put it to work for Bergoz’s growth, in its historical markets as well as in new medical and industrial applications.” **Nicolas Gauly, Chief Executive Officer, Bergoz Instrumentation.**

“We are delighted to co-acquire Bergoz Instrumentation alongside Nicolas. This transaction meets all of our investment criteria: a company built on strong know-how, a worldwide reputation, a position in fast-growing markets, and a high-caliber leader who will write the next chapter of the company’s development.” **Julien Alberici, Chief Executive Officer, Octalfa.**

“I had the privilege of leading Bergoz for eight years after acquiring the company myself from Julien Bergoz. Passing on a business also means choosing: first the project that will make it last, then the successor who will bring new momentum and ambitious growth on now-solid operational foundations, and who will earn the confidence of employees and customers. I am pleased to support him in this new chapter by reinvesting part of the proceeds of the sale.” **Etienne Touzain, seller.**

“The Fonds Régional Avenir Industrie Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, with the support of the European Union (ERDF funds), is designed to support the region’s industrial SMEs at key moments. Backing the transfer of a technology company like Bergoz means keeping rare know-how in the region and giving its teams the means to deploy it in new markets. We are proud to contribute, co-investing alongside a Lyon-based lead shareholder, a partner committed to employee ownership, and the employees themselves.” **Isabelle Bou Antoun, Partner, UI Investissement, on behalf of FRAI.**

“We have supported Nicolas Gauly since the very beginning of his acquisition project. We are proud to invest alongside him and to have brought together a lead shareholder, a regional partner, banking partners and the company’s employees. We look forward to continuing this support for Bergoz’s growth and to bringing employee ownership to life there.” **Mathis Laubin, PurpleShares.**

ADVISORS

Buy side

- Acquirers: Nicolas Gauly, Octalfa (Julien Alberici, Romain Durand), FRAI – UI Investissement (Isabelle Bou Antoun, Marc Chenu), PurpleShares (Pierre-Louis d'Argenlieu, Mathis Laubin)
- Legal counsel: Avixio Avocats (Cynthia Lefeuvre), Baverel Avocats (Sandra Baverel)
- Financial due diligence: Anderlaine (Vincent Luyton)
- Accounting: Canopée Consulting (Quentin Driguzzi)
- Valuation: Advolis Orfis (Benoît Nowaczyk)
- Financing: Banque de Savoie (Carine Rott), Bpifrance (Anne-Laure Claudel)

Sell side

- Seller: Caribou & Chamois (Etienne Touzain)
- Legal counsel: Lexicube Avocats (Guillaume Robert, Katia Samrani)
- Accounting: Fidextra (Guillaume Duboclard, Hervé Durand)

ABOUT BERGOZ INSTRUMENTATION

Based in Saint-Genis-Pouilly, France, Bergoz Instrumentation designs, manufactures and sells particle-beam measurement instruments. Its products are installed in major research accelerators, synchrotrons and medical facilities around the world. ISO 9001 and ISO 13485 certified, the company has 13 employees.

www.bergoz.com – info@bergoz.com

ABOUT NICOLAS GAULY

An engineer by training, Nicolas Gauly has built most of his career in industrial and innovative companies, where he developed a dual expertise: running demanding industrial organizations and bringing innovative technologies to market. With the acquisition of Bergoz Instrumentation, he brings this experience to a world-class technology SME.

ABOUT OCTALFA

Octalfa is the Alberici family's family office, founded in Lyon in 2007. It makes long-term equity investments in the creation of innovative companies and the acquisition of industrial companies with strong know-how, and actively supports their leaders.

www.octalfa.eu – initiative@octalfa.eu

ABOUT FRAI – UI INVESTISSEMENT

About UI Investissement

An independent firm specializing in business development, UI has for more than 50 years committed itself and invested alongside the leaders of startups, SMEs and mid-caps to create and grow companies that perform economically and sustainably.

UI Investissement manages more than €1.8 billion in assets and invests alongside more than 300 business leaders in sectors essential to society such as healthcare, agribusiness, industry and services. Growth and buyout capital, UI's historical core business, accounts for more than half of assets under management and gives more than 80 companies access to the operational expertise and methodological tools developed by UI. In parallel, teams and investment vehicles dedicated to innovation and consolidation support companies throughout their life cycle and contribute to the economic vitality of the regions.

UI today relies on 90 employees and, in addition to its Paris teams, on more than 10 regional offices (Besançon, Bordeaux, Clermont-Ferrand, Dijon, Lille, Limoges, Lyon, Nantes, Orléans, Reims, Rennes, Strasbourg, etc.).

For more information: www.ui-investissement.fr

About the Fonds Régional Avenir Industrie

The Region, managing authority for European funds

Created in November 2023 by the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, the Fonds Régional Avenir Industrie Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is designed to help finance innovative startups at the seed and industrialization stages, as well as mature companies in their growth phase, located in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region. The Fund has initial capital of €50 million, 50% of which comes from European funds, with the support of the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund). It brings together the region's resources, mobilized to support the regional economy and create local jobs.

ABOUT PURPLESHARES

PurpleShares is an investment company committed to employee ownership, dedicated to the transfer of French and Belgian SMEs. The equity it invests alongside acquirers is intended to be gradually transferred to the teams, executives and employees, whom it brings into the company's capital for the long term. It supports business leaders in their acquisition projects along four axes: finance, business development, digital challenges and the implementation of employee share ownership programs.

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PRESS CONTACTS

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