

Press release

Meridiam Infrastructure: a new PPP investment activity for infrastructure financing

Paris, 17 May 2006 Crédit Agricole Private Equity is pleased to announce the launch of Meridiam Infrastructure, a fund specialised in equity and quasi-equity financing for infrastructures developed under private-public partnerships (PPP).

Meridiam Infrastructure has extensive know-how in project development, financing and asset management. It targets primary and secondary markets for PPP-funded infrastructures in OECD countries, with a strong focus on Europe. Its key sectors are transport (motorways, railways, airports), public facilities (hospitals, schools, prisons, police stations) and the environment.

The fund is being sponsored to the tune of €220 million by the Crédit Agricole Group and Aecom Technology Corporation, a world leader in construction engineering. An additional fundraising round is planned to attract other long-term investors.

Meridiam Infrastructure is headed by Thierry Déau, a civil engineer and graduate of Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, who was previously Chief Executive of Egis Projects, a subsidiary of Caisse des Dépôts. He is backed by an international team of experts in financing, developing and managing PPP projects. "Our ambition is to become a finance house that can put together industrial partnerships to deliver socially beneficial services," says Thierry Déau.

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About Crédit Agricole Private Equity

Crédit Agricole Private Equity is an AMF-accredited asset management subsidiary of Crédit Agricole SA, specialising in private equity investment in non-listed companies. A team of thirty investors operating in several areas (Later-Stage Financing & LBO, Venture Capital, Secondary Market, Mezzanine and Renewable Energies), manages €1.4 billion in the form of FCPR, FCPI and private equity companies (SCR). Crédit Agricole Private Equity provides advice and support for business managers implementing growth plans.

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