

## PRESS RELEASE

**AURELIA (GAVIO GROUP) AND ARDIAN FINALIZED THE AGREEMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR IN EUROPE, IN THE U.S. AND LATIN AMERICA**

*Tortona (Al), Paris, 27 September 2018.* Aurelia S.r.l. (“Aurelia”), the financial holding company of the Gavio family, and Ardian, a world-leading private investment house and a leading investor in the infrastructure sector (“Ardian”), today executed the agreement signed on August 2<sup>nd</sup> (“Acquisition Agreement”) concerning the acquisition by Ardian of a minority stake, equal to 40%, of Nuova Argo Finanziaria S.p.A., a company that holds, directly and indirectly, a 58.77% stake in ASTM S.p.A., which itself holds a 63.41% stake in SIAS S.p.A..

As of today, Aurelia and Ardian also signed a shareholders’ agreement concerning, inter alia, the governance and the transfer of shares of Nuova Argo Finanziaria S.p.A., ASTM S.p.A. and SIAS S.p.A. Pursuant to the applicable law, Ardian and Aurelia, will publish the amendments made to the shareholders’ agreement to the version of the same shareholders’ agreement published on August 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 after the signing of the Acquisition Agreement.

The transaction was executed after the obtaining of the authorizations by the Brazilian and Austrian antitrust authorities.

As already communicated to the market, Aurelia will maintain the full and exclusive control of Nuova Argo Finanziaria S.p.A. and in turn on both ASTM S.p.A. and SIAS S.p.A.

The closing of the transaction enables the development of a strategic partnership that aims at strengthening Gavio Group in the infrastructure sector, as an increasingly competitive global player, focused on growth, international expansion and on value creation for all stakeholders, and able to successfully seize major opportunities in Europe, Latin America and the United States.

**About Ardian**

*Ardian is a world-leading private investment house with assets of US\$72bn managed or advised in Europe, the Americas and Asia. The company is majority-owned by its employees. It keeps entrepreneurship at its heart and focuses on delivering excellent investment performance to its global investor base.*

*Through its commitment to shared outcomes for all stakeholders, Ardian’s activities fuel individual, corporate and economic growth around the world.*

*Holding close its core values of excellence, loyalty and entrepreneurship, Ardian maintains a truly global network, with more than 530 employees working from fourteen offices across Europe (Frankfurt, Jersey, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Milan, Paris and Zurich), the Americas (New York, San Francisco and Santiago) and Asia (Beijing, Singapore, Tokyo). It manages funds on behalf of around 750 clients through five pillars of investment expertise: Funds of Funds, Direct Funds, Infrastructure, Real Estate and Private Debt.*

*Ardian on Twitter @Ardian*

**About Gavio Group**

*The Gavio Group is one of Italy's top industrial groups and a prominent global operator in the transport infrastructure sector.*

*Through its subsidiaries Astm and Sias, industrial holding companies whose shares are traded on the Borsa Italiana market, the Group operates in the sectors of the management of motorway concessions, of the EPC Contractor (Engineering, Procurement & Construction), and of the technology applied to mobility.*

*As at the date hereof, the Group is the world's fourth operator in the management of motorway concessions with around 4,150 kilometres of network under concession in countries such as Italy (in which the Group is the main operator in the North-West with around 1,423 kilometres of network), Brazil (in which the Group operates through Ecorodovias, a co-controlled company, with a network of around 2,640 kilometres) and the United Kingdom.*

*In the EPC Contractor sector, the Group operates through Itinera, one of the world's biggest players in the realization of major infrastructure works. With an order book of more than EUR 4 billion, the Company operates in the United States by holding a controlling stake in Halmar International, one of the top five companies in the metropolitan area of New York in the transport infrastructure sector, in Latin America, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.*

[www.gruppogavio.it](http://www.gruppogavio.it)

**Contacts****GRUPPO GAVIO**

*Moccagatta Associati*

**Tel: +39 02. 86.45.16.95/ 02.86.45. 14.19**

**segreteria@moccagatta.it**

**ARDIAN****Image Building**

**Cristina Fossati, Luisella Murtas, Anna Pirtali**

**Tel: +39 02 89011300**

**ardian@imagebuilding.it**