

PRESS RELEASE

NEXTALIA ANNOUNCES ITS INVESTMENT IN DI SANO, A LEADING PRODUCER OF PISTACHIO-BASED INGREDIENTS, SEMI-FINISHED AND FINISHED PRODUCTS FOR THE ARTISANAL AND INDUSTRIAL CHANNELS

THE TRANSACTION, CARRIED OUT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FOUNDER FRANCESCO DI SANO, CONFIRMS NEXTALIA'S STRATEGY OF SUPPORTING HIGH-POTENTIAL ENTREPRENEURIAL COMPANIES

Milan, 19th January 2026 - **Nextalia Investment Management** ("Nextalia"), on behalf of the fund Nextalia Flexible Capital ("NFC"), announces the signing of a binding agreement for the acquisition of a majority stake in Di Sano S.r.l. and DiGel S.r.l. ("Di Sano" or the "Group"), one of the leading Italian players in the production and distribution of pistachio-based finished and semi-finished products for both the artisanal (gelato shops and pastry shops) and industrial channels. The Group boasts a broad product portfolio, which also includes gelato bases (Meucci brand) and candied fruit (Romeo brand).

Founded in 2012 by Francesco Di Sano, who has led the Group's development by leveraging strong product expertise and extensive sector experience, the Group represents a fast-growing entrepreneurial company, supported by solid market trends driven by increasing demand for pistachio-based products and by a proven ability to meet the needs of both artisanal and industrial customers.

With revenues that have grown at a rate exceeding 35% per year in recent years, Di Sano is strategically located in Northern Italy, operating a modern production facility of over 22,000 sqm in Landriano (Pavia). The site is equipped with dedicated production lines for high value-added semi-finished products, such as creams and pastes, and features significant unused production capacity to support future growth.

Nextalia intends to support the Group – also through the strengthening of the management structure and the enhancement of internal capabilities – in the execution of ambitious growth plans, both organic and through targeted add-on acquisitions. The objective is to create a leading platform in the high value-added ingredients and preparations segment for the confectionery industry, expanding the product offering and further consolidating the Group's presence in the artisanal and industrial channels, as well as developing its presence in large-scale retail.

Under the terms of the transaction, Nextalia will acquire a controlling stake in Di Sano, while Francesco Di Sano and the other current shareholders will retain a minority interest – confirming the strength of the project and the Group's prospects – and will continue to hold managerial roles.

Francesco Canzonieri, CEO of Nextalia, commented: "The acquisition of Di Sano fully reflects our investment philosophy: identifying and enhancing Italian mid-sized companies that stand out for quality, consolidated know-how and a strong entrepreneurial identity. Di Sano represents the second investment of the NFC fund, launched in February 2025 and which rapidly reached its €500 million hard cap, confirming the attractiveness of the Italian mid-market segment and the trust investors place in our platform and in Nextalia's professionals."

Massimiliano Monti, Partner and Head of NFC, added: "Di Sano is a virtuous example of a company built on solid capabilities and high product quality, and we are enthusiastic about supporting the Group by providing financial resources, managerial expertise and a medium- to long-term strategic vision. We firmly believe in Di Sano's development potential, both organic and through acquisitions, with the goal of creating a true reference champion in the sector."

Francesco Di Sano, founder of the Group, commented: "This transaction represents a natural step and the beginning of a new phase for the Group, based on our conviction that Nextalia is the ideal partner to support us on this journey thanks to its pragmatic industrial approach and shared strategic vision. With Nextalia's support, we can accelerate growth and enable the Group to fully express its potential, aiming to achieve ambitious milestones."

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Completion of the transaction is subject to the satisfaction of customary conditions precedent, in line with market practice for transactions of this kind.

Nextalia was assisted by PedersoliGattai as legal advisor and by Alvarez & Marsal for financial, tax and payroll due diligence.

The shareholders of Di Sano were assisted by Vitale & Co. as financial advisor, as well as by attorney Donatella Minutolo for legal matters and MCT Tax for tax-related aspects.

Nextalia is an investment platform promoted by Francesco Canzonieri together with leading Italian institutional investors (Intesa Sanpaolo, Unipol Assicurazioni, Aurelia, Finprog Italia, Fondazione ENPAM, H14, Istituto Atesino di Sviluppo, Massimo Moratti S.a.p.a, Confcommercio, Confindustria, Bonifiche Ferraresi and Micheli Associati).

With the aim of investing in Italian excellence to accelerate sustainable growth, Nextalia manages over two billion euros and positions itself as the leading platform in Italy for private market investments. Nextalia manages seven funds, “Nextalia Private Equity”, “Nextalia Credit Opportunities”, “Nextalia Ventures”, “Nextalia Capitale Rilancio”, “Nextalia Flexible Capital”, “Nextalia Credit Solutions” and “Fondo Leonardo”, and has recently launched the fundraising phase for “Nextalia Private Equity II” funds.

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