PRESS RELEASE

NEXTALIA STRENGTHENS ITS PRESENCE IN THE FOOD INGREDIENTS SEGMENT WITH THE INVESTMENT IN DI BARTOLO, A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR PISTACHIO-BASED PRODUCTS AND A REFERENCE POINT FOR THE CONFECTIONERY INDUSTRY

THE DI BARTOLO FAMILY REINVESTS IN THE TRANSACTION AND REMAINS AT THE HELM OF THE COMPANY, WITH CARMELO DI BARTOLO AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Milan, 19th November 2026 – **Nextalia Investment Management** ("Nextalia"), on behalf of the Nextalia Flexible Capital fund ("NFC"), announces the signing of a binding agreement for the acquisition of a majority stake in **Di Bartolo S.r.l.** ("Di Bartolo" or the "Company"), a Sicilian producer of high-quality ingredients, mainly pistachio-based, for the confectionery and ice cream industry.

The transaction consolidates Nextalia's presence in the sector of high value-added semi-finished and finished ingredients for the confectionery industry, a market experiencing structural growth driven by consumers who are increasingly attentive to quality, health and the discovery of new flavours. In this context, pistachios and nuts have taken on a leading role, featuring not only in artisanal gelato and pastry shops but also in industrial products, from ice cream to confectionery, while Italy, building on its pastry-making tradition, is the main international hub for this market.

Founded in 1988 in Calatabiano (Catania) by Rosario Di Bartolo, the Company underwent major development with the arrival of his children Carmelo, Valeria and Cristina, who now lead its operations. In recent years the Company has grown significantly, exceeding EUR 25 million in revenues, and today employs approximately 30 people at its production facility. Over time, Di Bartolo has progressively broadened its offering, which is now built around pistachio, accounting for approximately 70% of sales, alongside almonds, hazelnuts and citrus extracts. Pastes, the flagship product accounting for approximately 60% of revenues, are complemented by chopped nuts, pralinés, creams, variegates in both traditional and vegan versions, citrus juices, flavourings and essential oils.

The Company operates mainly in the industrial channel and serves leading Italian and international groups active in ice cream, confectionery and chocolate production. Di Bartolo is a key partner for these customers, with whom it has built long-standing relationships thanks to the quality of its products, its attention to service and a strong focus on research and development, which translates every year into the launch of new tailor-made products.

Most sales are generated in Italy, but Di Bartolo's products also reach international markets, both indirectly, through its customers, and directly, particularly in France, Poland and Germany. Its premium positioning is supported by a wide range of quality and sustainability certifications, including BRCGS, EU Organic, Halal, Kosher and ISCC Plus.

Media Relations
+39 02 382841
press@nextalia.com

www.nextalia.com

Investor Relations
+39 02 38284106
IR@nextalia.com

MAIM Group
Andrea Pontecorvo
+39 393 5486192
a.pontecorvo@maimgroup.com

Nextalia Investment Management
Niccolò Bussolati
+39 338 3848931
niccolo.bussolati@nextalia.com

The structure of the transaction provides for the acquisition by Nextalia of a majority stake in Di Bartolo, while the Di Bartolo family will reinvest, retaining a minority stake, and will continue to lead the Company's operations. Carmelo Di Bartolo, who over the years has overseen sales and research and development, will serve as Chief Executive Officer. Valeria Di Bartolo will continue to serve as Head of Procurement and Logistics, a strategic role in a raw materials market as complex as that of nuts, while Cristina Di Bartolo will be General Manager and Head of Administration and Finance.

Valentina Pippolo, Chief Investment Officer Equity at Nextalia, commented: "With Di Bartolo, Nextalia Flexible Capital continues its strategy dedicated to small national champions: companies that lead their niche, that have grown thanks to the passion and expertise of their founders, and that we want to support in a new phase of development. The Company is valued by the market for the quality of its products and the reliability of its service, and the Di Bartolo family is held in high regard by customers and industry players."

Massimiliano Monti, Partner and Head of Nextalia Flexible Capital, added: "Our investment in Di Bartolo strengthens our commitment to a sector we strongly believe in. The Company has long-standing relationships with the leading ice cream and confectionery producers, built on flexibility and the ability to innovate together with its customers. We will work alongside Carmelo, Valeria and Cristina, whose reinvestment confirms their full commitment to a project with a strong industrial focus, to consolidate the Company's role as a preferred partner for industrial customers in the sector."

The Di Bartolo family stated: "The business our father started in 1988 has become, thanks to the work of the whole family and our team, a reference point for the confectionery industry and, in particular, for our customers. In Nextalia we have found an investor that immediately understood our values and with whom we can open a new chapter in our history, while preserving the focus on quality and customer needs that has always set us apart. That is why we chose to reinvest, and we will continue to be personally committed to the development of the company."

The transaction is supported by financing provided by BPER Banca, assisted by the law firm Norton Rose Fulbright.

In the transaction, Nextalia was assisted by PedersoliGattai as legal advisor, Alvarez & Marsal for financial, tax and payroll due diligence, Boston Consulting Group for commercial due diligence, ERM for environmental and ESG due diligence, Essentia as financing advisor and Latham & Watkins for the legal aspects of the financing.

The Di Bartolo family was assisted by CP Advisors as financial advisor, KPMG for financial and tax due diligence, and Chiomenti and Giaconia Gitto Natullo & Associati for legal matters.

Media Relations
+39 02 382841
press@nextalia.com

www.nextalia.com

Investor Relations
+39 02 38284106
IR@nextalia.com

MAIM Group
Andrea Pontecorvo
+39 393 5486192
a.pontecorvo@maimgroup.com

Nextalia Investment Management
Niccolò Bussolati
+39 338 3848931
niccolo.bussolati@nextalia.com

Nextalia Investment Management *is an independent investment platform founded and led by Francesco Canzonieri and backed by leading Italian institutional and entrepreneurial investors (Intesa Sanpaolo, Unipol Assicurazioni, Aurelia, Finprog Italia, Fondazione ENPAM, H14, Istituto Atesino di Sviluppo, Massimo Moratti S.p.A., Confcommercio, Confindustria, Bonifiche Ferraresi and Micheli Associati).*

With the aim of investing in Italian excellence to accelerate sustainable growth, Nextalia positions itself as the leading platform in Italy for private market investments. The Company manages over three billion euros of assets across its three core investment verticals: Equity, with the "Nextalia Private Equity I", "Nextalia Private Equity II", "Nextalia Flexible Capital" and "Nextalia Capitale Rilancio" funds; Credit, with the "Nextalia Credit Opportunities", "Nextalia Credit Solutions", "Fondo Leonardo" and "Fondo Raffaello" funds; Ventures, with the "Nextalia Ventures" fund. "Fondo Leonardo" and "Fondo Raffaello" are contribution funds.

Media Relations
+39 02 382841
press@nextalia.com

www.nextalia.com

Investor Relations
+39 02 38284106
IR@nextalia.com

MAIM Group
Andrea Pontecorvo
+39 393 5486192
a.pontecorvo@maimgroup.com

Nextalia Investment Management
Niccolò Bussolati
+39 338 3848931
niccolo.bussolati@nextalia.com