

WISE Srl raises EUR 6.5 million for clinical validation of novel neuroelectrodes for brain monitoring and spinal cord stimulation

Minimally invasive, highly conformable, foldable and stretchable electrodes for growing Neuromonitoring and Neuromodulation markets being developed

Milan, Italy and Berlin, Germany, 25th May 2017 - WISE Srl, a medical device company developing next-generation implantable neuromodulation leads announces today the closing of a EUR 6.5 million series B financing round, led by Principia SGR, an Italian Venture Capital firm. Existing investors Atlante Ventures, High-Tech Gründerfonds, F3F and Antares joined the round.

WISE develops novel, highly flexible and stretchable implantable neuromodulation leads for the treatment of a range of neurological conditions based on its proprietary Supersonic Cluster Beam Implantation (SCBI) technology. By means of the new financial round, WISE aims to market its first product for acute use, Cortical Electrodes for intraoperative monitoring, and to conclude the development of its breakthrough product, the first percutaneously-implantable paddle lead for Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS).

WISE's paddles will be foldable, therefore combining the strengths of paddle leads - directional stimulation and precise selection of the stimulation point - with the versatility, simple positioning and easy removal of percutaneous leads. WISE's Foldable SCS Paddle Leads have the mission to overcome today's trade-off between leads' performance and invasiveness of the surgery. Having established in 2016 its 1000 m² manufacturing plant in Cologno Monzese (Milan, Italy), which comprises equipment and cleanrooms compliant for the production of implantable medical devices, WISE is currently CE marking the Cortical Electrodes and developing the Foldable SCS Paddle Leads.

Antonio Falcone, CEO of Principia SGR, lead investor of this financing round, commented: "We are very pleased with this further investment in WISE Srl, which proves the efficiency and development of this project. WISE researchers and directors are not only meeting our expectations but are doing so in a shorter time than we expected."

"Thanks to our progresses in product development and to the financial support of our investors, we are now in an excellent position to advance our novel neuromodulation products towards the market," said WISE's CEO and co-founder Dr. Luca Ravagnan. "We believe that in the field of SCS, we will be able to offer patients a product which combines for the first time the performance advantages of paddle leads with a minimally-invasive implantation procedure currently reserved to percutaneous leads", he added.

Dr. Kay Balster, Senior Investment Manager at High-Tech Gründerfonds commented: "WISE's unique and proprietary technology will allow to overcome limitations of current products and will be able to set a new benchmark in the field of neurostimulation of patients. We are very happy to share this vision with the remarkable management of WISE and with an extraordinary group of experienced individual and financial investors from Italy, Switzerland and Germany".

The leads and extensions presently used in neuromodulation come with two major limitations: breakage and dislocation, caused by the stiffness of the material currently being used and requiring surgical replacement of the electrodes. WISE's competitive advantage is built on its metallization technology that allows insertion of electronic microcircuits into biocompatible silicones, producing

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highly elastic electrodes that resist stretching and twisting without the risk of dislocation or electrical failure. WISE's leads are also easier to manufacture than the current standard, can be tailored to the patient, and have the potential to significantly reduce the risk of tissue inflammation in patients by being smaller and softer.

"The innovative content of the leads under development make us quite confident about their market potential. Consequently, we are very pleased to keep on supporting WISE's outstanding team along the regulatory path aimed to reach the CE mark", added Davide Turco, Head of Atlante Ventures.

"After the set up in 2016 of the production plant in Cologno Monzese, WISE is today a manufacturing company ready to enter the neurostimulation market and to contribute to the great development of this sector thanks to its innovative products," concluded Mario Zanone Poma, Chairman of WISE and co-founder through the shareholder Agite!.

For more information, please contact info@wiseneuro.com or visit the company's website at www.wiseneuro.com.

About WISE

WISE Srl develops novel, highly flexible and stretchable implantable neuromodulation leads for the treatment of different neurological conditions based on its proprietary Supersonic Cluster Beam Implantation (SCBI) technology.

Neuromodulation therapy requires electrodes and leads to be surgically implanted to apply electrical stimuli to neural tissues. The leads produced using WISE's new SCBI technology consist of electronic circuits in very thin elastomeric foils, preventing dislocation, breakage or damage commonly observed in currently available devices. SCBI metallizes stretchable polymers, resulting in more flexible and easier to produce leads.

WISE develops foldable paddles for less invasive surgical procedures for chronic pain treatment by spinal cord stimulation, a market with large constant growth rates and an unmet medical need. The Company is preparing the CE marking and subsequent clinical trials for its first product, a grid electrode for acute monitoring and stimulation of the cortex.

Founded in 2011 by a team of solid state physicists coming from the University of Milan and by the angel investor Agite! S.p.A, WISE has so far received funding from Agite!, Atlante Seed and Atlante Ventures, b-to-v, HTGF, Principia SGR and private investors. Since 2016 the Company has established its Production Plant in Cologno Monzese, Milan, Italy (1000 m² wide, comprising cleanrooms and production laboratories compliant for the manufacturing of implantable medical devices) and has an office in Berlin, Germany.

For more information, please visit: www.wiseneuro.com.

About Principia SGR

Principia SGR is one of the leading Italian Venture Capital firms. Currently the company manages three investment funds, called Principia Fund, Principia II and Principia III - Health. Through the first two funds - today fully invested - Principia has funded about 40 companies in the start-up phase and by supplying growth capital. Principia III – Health is the first Venture Capital and Growth Capital fund in Italy specifically dedicated to the healthcare sector and its volume at this day is of €206m. The fund has invested so far € 53 mln. Goal is to contribute to the development of a sector in Italy that is characterized by the presence of high skills and internationally recognized quality but suffers currently from the lack of financial support.

For more information, please visit: www.principiasgr.it.



About Atlante

Atlante Ventures and Atlante Seed are funds promoted by Intesa Sanpaolo, one of the top banking groups in the euro zone, dedicated to seed and early stage capital. The Atlante Funds invest in innovative companies still small but with high growth potential, with a particular attention to those belonging to the high technology industry. The Atlante Funds are among the most active Italian VC investors both in terms of investment done and in terms of exits and IPOs.

About High-Tech Gründerfonds

High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF) is Germany's most active seed stage investor. With EUR 576 million under management in two funds HTGF provides financing for technology-driven companies active in a wide range of fields, including robotics, IoT and energy, Medtech and Biotech, chemicals and software. Investors in this public-private partnership include the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, the KfW Banking Group, and 18 strategic corporate investors.

For more information, please visit: www.htgf.de.

About F3F

F3F is an Italian company controlled by biotech and healthcare entrepreneur Laura Iris Ferro. Based in Milan the company has an investment policy aimed at taking stakes in diversified business with high return potential including traditional ones as real estate and innovative ones such as life science.

About Antares

Antares is an investment company started in 1995 and controlled by Mario Zanone Poma and his family. Part of its investments is dedicated to innovative startups.

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