



Press Release

Paris, 20 June 2008

### **PAI partners becomes the largest shareholder in Atos Origin with a circa 18% holding**

PAI partners ("PAI") announces that it has acquired 17.9% of the outstanding share capital in Atos Origin to become the Company's largest shareholder. PAI has successfully increased its holding through the levels of 5%, 10% and then 15% of the shares and voting rights of the Company, in compliance with the provisions of Article 233-14 of the "*Règlement Général de l'AMF*". Purchases were completed by the acquisition of shares in the market.

PAI is a long-standing and experienced investor in the European information services sector. PAI was the founding shareholder of Atos, created through the merger of Axime and Sligos and played a key role in the development of the Company which was 100% owned by PAI until its listing. PAI notably supported the merger with Origin that resulted in the creation of Atos Origin. PAI was also, since its creation, the controlling shareholder of Sema, the European leader in systems integration, whose international expansion was supported by PAI and which was subsequently acquired by Atos Origin.

PAI intends to assist the development of the Company over the medium term and assist in the realisation of a transformation plan launched by management.

PAI is seeking representation on the supervisory board of Atos Origin.

PAI also announces that, absent material change in the situation of the Company or its business environment,

- It is not acting or seeking to act in concert with a third party
- It does not intend to take control of the Company
- It does not rule out the further purchase of shares, subject to market conditions.

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## **Notes to Editors**

PAI is a leading European private equity firm with offices in Paris, London, Madrid, Milan, Munich and Luxembourg. PAI manages and advises dedicated buyout funds with an aggregate equity value of over €11 billion.

Since 1998, PAI has completed 34 LBO transactions in 9 European countries, representing over €28 billion in transaction value.

In recent years, PAI has led several high profile European leveraged buyouts of sector-leading companies. Acquisitions have included: Antargaz, the leading LPG distributor in France; Chr. Hansen, the worldwide leader in natural ingredients to the food industry; Coin, the market leading apparel retailer in Italy; Cortefiel, the market leading apparel retailer in Spain; Elis, the European leader in the textile rental and well-being services industry; Kwik-Fit, Europe's largest automotive fast-fit services provider; Monier, the worldwide leader in roofing products and solutions; Perstorp, the world leading producer of added value ingredients for the paint, resin and coatings industries; Saeco, the worldwide leader in automatic espresso coffee machines; Saur, a leader in the water distribution, sanitation and waste management in France; Spie, a leading multitechnical services company, United Biscuits, the #2 biscuits manufacturer in Europe; Vivarte, the leading specialist retailer of footwear and clothing in France and Yoplait, the #2 worldwide producer of fresh dairy products.

PAI is characterised by its operational approach to ownership combined with industrial and sector expertise.

For further information on PAI partners: [www.paipartners.com](http://www.paipartners.com)