



## Press Release

26<sup>th</sup> of November 2018

### **AfricInvest invests in Les Centaures Routiers, a leading freight transport and logistics company in West Africa**

AfricInvest, a leading Pan-African mid-cap-focused private equity firm, has invested in Les Centaures Routiers (“LCR”), the largest independent transportation company in Côte d’Ivoire.

AfricInvest Fund III, the firm’s third generation Pan-African fund, will provide LCR with EUR 12.2 m of financing. The company will use the proceeds to (i) grow the existing business by reinforcing the company’s fleet of trucks (ii) invest in a new site that will consolidate all the freight transport and logistics activities by including a new state of the art logistics platform and (iii) meet the increasing working capital needs of the group.

Founded in 1953 by Jean-Jacques Delsuc, LCR is a leading transportation company mainly present in road freight transport in Côte d’Ivoire. LCR moves a wide variety of goods such as oil & gas, palm oil, sugar, beverages, and containers. The company also offers basic logistics services such as warehousing, handling and space rentals. LCR operates a fleet of 350 trucks as well as other transport and handling equipment spread over different sites in Côte d’Ivoire.

Through its investment, AfricInvest aims to support LCR’s ambition to become one of the main independent local logistics platforms in Côte d’Ivoire and to contribute to filling the current gap in the logistics sector in West Africa.

Bertrand Delsuc, Chief Executive Officer of Les Centaures Routiers, said, “We are pleased to partner with AfricInvest to take our company to the next level. We believe that the trusting relationship we have built will foster the development and growth of our new organization.”

Anne-Marie Delsuc, Chief Administrative officer and Partner, added, “The arrival of an institutional investor with a solid experience in logistics on which we can capitalize, will certainly contribute to the growth and sustainability of our activities.”

Olivier Delsuc, Deputy CEO, added, “ This important step in LCR’s transition and transformation process is highly welcome. This partnership will foster the development of the company by reinforcing its strong foundation.”

Hichem Ghanmi, Senior Partner at AfricInvest commented, “Les Centaures Routiers has managed to establish a strong brand and an excellent reputation in Côte d’Ivoire where it is recognized for its reliability and expertise. AfricInvest will draw on its experience in the logistics sector to provide the company with all the needed active support to deploy its new projects”





Cheikh-Souleymane Diallo, Senior Manager at AfricInvest added, “We are proud and happy to support LCR and the Delsuc family in deploying a new strategic vision as well as enhancing its governance to achieve its projected growth in the region and bring a key support to the private sector in the region.”

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### **Enquiries**

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### **About AfricInvest**

AfricInvest is one of the leading private equity firms in Africa with over Euro 1,2 billion of assets under management across several private equity funds. Founded 24 years ago, AfricInvest has deployed capital in 25 countries contributing to significant socio-economic development mainly thanks to revenue growth, profitability, and governance improvement across its portfolio companies. Operating out of seven offices in Africa (Abidjan, Algiers, Cairo, Casablanca, Lagos, Nairobi, and Tunis) and two offices in Europe: one in Paris and one in London, AfricInvest invests in leading African enterprises that have regional and continental growth aspirations, relying on dedicated investment team that deliver expertise and focus on improving business processes and charting new growth initiatives.

[www.africinvest.com](http://www.africinvest.com)

### **About Les Centaures Routiers**

LCR is a family owned business founded in August 1953 by Jean-Jacques Delsuc. The Company employs more than 540 people.

Presently, LCR is a leading and reputable transportation company in Côte d'Ivoire with a historical presence. The company is operating an impressive fleet of trucks and other equipment such as semi-trailers, trailer carry truck, cranes, ...

The company benefits from a professional workshop for the repair, maintenance and refurbishment of its trucks. The portfolio of the company includes Tier 1 and multinational companies.

<http://www.lescentauresroutiers.com/>

