Valpizza acquires also La Pizza+1

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Valpizza, a company specialized in the production of frozen pizza, controlled by Aksìa Group through Aksìa Capital V fund, has purchased La Pizza+1, market leader in Italy in rectangular refrigerated pizza, focaccia and pinsa, and its Ligurian subsidiary, Il Borgo, producer of Genoese focaccia, holders of important market shares in the retail and discount sectors, both under its own brands and in the private label (see the press release here). Sante Ludovico and Giuseppe Ambrosi, who founded the

Company 25 years ago and who will reinvest for a minority stake in the Valpizza holding, sold Pizza + 1.

The auction process involved international industrial players such as **Dr. Oetker, Freiberger Group (Sudzucker), Cerelia** and **Grupo Palacios** and various private equity funds including **DeA Capital, BC Partners** (through the subsidiary **Forno d'Asolo**) and **Ergon** (through **Dolciaria Acquaviva**).

The financial advisor CP Advisors originated and managed the sale process, assisting the entrepreneurs. Pedersoli Studio Legale acted as legal advisor, while KPMG provided the financial vendor due diligence service. Aksia Group was assisted by the financial advisor Equita K Finance, by E&Y for the due diligence activity and by Giliberti, Triscornia & Associati for the legal part.

The transaction follows the one carried out by Valpizza on C&D, an Apulian company leader in the production of frozen pre-fried baked goods and which also in that case saw the Carbonara family sell the entire capital of the company and reinvest for a minority (see <u>another article by</u> <u>BeBeez</u>). The same pattern was followed for the acquisition of Megic Pizza, a manufacturer of refrigerated round pizza mainly present abroad, last November 2020 (see <u>another article by BeBeez</u>).

Founded over 25 years ago in the province of Piacenza, La Pizza+1 expects to exceed 30 million euro in revenues in 2021 with an ebitda margin of around 20%, after closing 2020 with 24 million in revenues, an ebitda of 4.5 million and a net financial debt of one million. Results obtained after investing approximately 10 million euro in 2019 for the construction of a new state-of-the-art plant with a production capacity that will allow it to double its turnover in the next 3 years

Valpizza, based in Valsamoggia (Bologna), is a leader in the production of frozen pizza with a production capacity of over 80 million pizza per year. Thanks to a strategic plan focused on product innovation and the creation of value within the supply chain, the company has consolidated its leadership in the market, with its own and distributor brand products, on all continents. Aksia has

been the majority shareholder of Valpizza since July 2020 (see <u>another article by BeBeez</u>). In 2019 the company recorded a turnover of around 20 million euros and an ebitda of over 4 million