

***Friday 1 March 2019***

***Sofindev realizes new investment in Mabo-Lifting***

Sofindev acquires a significant stake in Mabo-Lifting via its Sofindev IV fund. With Sofindev, the managing directors of Mabo-Lifting, Maarten and Bram Mariën-Bouwens take a strong partner on board to support the further growth of Mabo-Lifting.

Mabo-Lifting is a Belgian distributor of high-quality forklifts specialized in space saving and efficiency improving solutions. The company is backed by leading manufacturers such as Moffett, Combilift and Innolift, with whom it has long-term partnerships and exclusive import rights for Belgium.

The company generates about 17 MEUR sales with more than 40 employees. On a daily basis, 15 service vehicles are servicing more than 15.000 customers.

In recent years, Mabo-Lifting has realized a successful track record, which is due to a solution oriented sales focus in combination with a strong after sales service and technical support with a one-stop-shop ambition.

To support the next growth phase, the owners of Mabo-Lifting were looking for a complementary partner with clear added value. Both managing directors remain important shareholders after the entry of Sofindev and continue to run the business on a day-to-day basis.

Mabo-Lifting is already the reference in space saving and efficiency improving forklifts. With the support of Sofindev and under the leadership of Maarten and Bram Mariën-Bouwens, Mabo-Lifting will continue to develop its broad offering of specialized forklifts to optimize logistics.

Sofindev is an established player in the Benelux private equity market, investing in small and medium sized companies since 1991, with the objective to drive growth and professionalism and the mission to be the preferred partner of ambitious entrepreneurs and management teams. Sofindev launched a new fund in 2015, Sofindev IV, which was closed in March 2016 with 107 MEUR capital commitments. Mabo-Lifting is the seventh investment of Sofindev IV, next to Fedrus International (production and trade of specialty building materials for roof and façade), Geodynamics (fleet management and time registration software for mobile workers), Novy (cooker hoods), Group Claes (specialty wholesaler to the food retail and food processing sectors) and Companyweb (online business and credit information provider). The investment in House of Talents (HR services for shortage occupations) was sold in February 2019 to Baltisse.

In this transaction, Sofindev was advised by KPMG and Argo Law. Cresco was legal adviser to Mabo-Lifting.



**Mabo-Lifting**  
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