



**18 October 2016**

## **Mezzanine Capital Partners backs MBL with EUR 15 million**

### ***Family-owned firm to grow product line and geographic reach with fresh funds***

Mezzanine Capital Partners has backed rehabilitation component maker MBL and its shareholders with a commitment of EUR 15m to support the business's continued growth.

MBL was founded in 1988 in Silkeborg, Denmark and has been run by the founding family ever since. The business makes standard and customized parts for wheelchairs, such as front and rear wheels, pushrims, front forks, bearing housings, foot rests, hand brakes and more.

MBL opened a production facility in Piotrków Trybunalski, Poland, in 1991 and in 1998 another production facility was opened in Xiamen, China.

Today the company employs around 1,400 globally and is a major supplier to leading manufacturers of rehabilitation equipment.

The funding is comprised of a combined debt and equity package, solely funded by Mezzanine Capital Partners-advised AMC III, which will take a significant minority stake in the business. The funds will be used to strengthen the balance sheet to enable MBL to expand geographically as well as pursue the development of new, complementary products with primary focus on more advanced technologies.

The growth is being driven by demographics, which sees increasing spending on healthcare combined with a growing need for such products.

MBL's current coverage gives it strong penetration in the European and North American markets, as well as emerging markets such as Eastern Europe, Japan and Asia Pacific, where the market is set to grow in the near- and medium-term.

The deal was funded through MCP-advised Accession Mezzanine Capital III.

Piotr Sadowski, Senior Investment Director at Mezzanine Management's Warsaw office, said: *"MBL is a well-run family business with a rich history and excellent reputation in its segment. As demand for its products grows, we are delighted to be partnering with the family to provide it with the support it needs to cater to this increasing demand."*

Martin Bichel Lauritsen, Deputy CEO of MBL, said: *“The business has developed tremendously over the last 28 years. The increasing rate of growth expected over the coming years means that we are very excited to have brought on board an investor with so much relevant experience. We look forward to working together to drive MBL into its next phase, which will see it expand into new products and geographies.”*

The parties were advised in the transaction by Deloitte, DFCM Capital & Management, GESSEL Attorneys at law and Horten Law Firm.

Mezzanine Capital Partners is an exclusive advisor to the Accession Mezzanine Capital group of funds, whose total commitments exceeded half a billion euros. The company has been operating in Central Europe since 2001 through its offices in Vienna, Warsaw, Bucharest, Budapest and Prague. The funds’ investment portfolio is diverse and includes 45 transactions over 10 countries in Central Europe. The fund is backed by reputable institutional investors, including European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Fund and a number of banks, funds of funds and insurance companies. For further information, see [www.mezzmanagement.com](http://www.mezzmanagement.com)