

Press Release

FNX VENTURES BACKS FRENCH START-UP ORIGINAL CUSTOM COMPONENTS

Liège, 23 January 2025

FNX Ventures, the investment fund created in 2024 by Wallonie Entreprendre and the FN Browning Group to invest in new security technologies, has announced its participation in the €500,000 financing round for French start-up Original Custom Components.

Founded in Nîmes by two aeronautical engineers and now based in Toulon, Original Custom Components has developed new patented materials that are particularly light and suitable for the manufacture of cutting-edge products, including sound suppressors. Produced using additive manufacturing in France and the Netherlands, these products are intended for a wide range of sectors, from automotive to marine and defence.

To support the development of its activities, Original Custom Components has chosen to work with Business Angels players in the field of seed financing, including Angels' Bay Invest, based in the Alpes Maritimes, Var Business Angel, based in the Var, and FNX Ventures. This first round of financing represents a major turning point for the start-up, allowing it to continue to innovate, extend its applications to new areas of activity and conquer new markets in Europe and Quebec. This first round of financing provides the resources to achieve these ambitions.

The involvement of FNX Ventures marks a major turning point in the development of our company. We are proud and delighted to welcome FNX Ventures. In addition to the intrinsic qualities of the FNX Ventures teams, the support of the FN Browning Group and its subsidiary FN Herstal is a fundamental element in our future development and we firmly believe that this is just the beginning of a great adventure together.

Stéphane Escalier, Chairman and Co-founder of Original Custom Components

We are particularly pleased to be involved in Original Custom Components' fundraising efforts. Our financial support will enable the company's teams to continue developing their promising technologies. In addition to our financial support, Original Custom Components will be able to count on the technological and industrial know-how of the FN Browning Group and its subsidiary FN Herstal, particularly for sound suppressors dedicated to the defence sector.

Thibaut Claes, General Manager of FNX Ventures

With a capital of €20 million, FNX Ventures aims to support innovative European companies in their early stages of development, both seed and pre-seed.

The fund focuses on security technologies, including cybersecurity, dual technologies and new materials.

FNX Ventures' participation in Original Custom Components' financing needs is the first transaction for our fund. It marks a turning point. We are now following several European start-ups that we have identified or that have proactively approached us. And, of course, we are always open to new investment opportunities in our chosen field, the European security technology ecosystem.

Vincent de Crayencour, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of FNX Ventures

About Wallonie Entrepreneurs

Wallonie Entrepreneurs is the economic and financial instrument of the Walloon Region. WE provides the resources needed to develop economic activity in various sectors such as agri-food, biotech and deeptech. WE's investments and financing are always aimed at the creation, growth, transfer or relaunch of businesses. WE ensures compliance with social and environmental standards and promotes sustainability and circularity in economic approaches.

About FN Browning Group

Through its subsidiaries, including FN Herstal and Browning, the FN Browning Group markets world-renowned brands: FN, Browning, Winchester* and Noptel. Recognised worldwide for their innovation and dependability, their products and services equip the most demanding defence and law enforcement agencies, hunters and sport shooters. Headquartered in Herstal and owned by Wallonie Entrepreneurs (Walloon Region, Belgium), the Group employs 3,000 people in Belgium, the United States, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Finland.

CONTACT US

FNX VENTURES

Thibaut Claes
General Manager

Email: thibaut@fnx.vc
Tel.: +32.475.20.86.54

<https://fnx.vc>

ORIGINAL CUSTOM COMPONENTS

Stéphane Escalier
Chairman

Email: stef@original-custom-components.fr
Tel.: +33 6 13 55 39 13

<https://original-custom-components.fr/>

WALLONIE ENTREPRENDRE

Nathalie Lafontaine
Spokesperson

Email: nathalie.lafontaine@wallonie-entrepreneurs.be
Tel.: +32.476.93.38.49

<https://wallonie-entrepreneurs.be>

FN BROWNING GROUP

Henry de Harenne
Head of Communications

Email: henry.deharenne@fnbrowninggroup.com
Tel.: +32 470 62 59 43

<https://fnbrowninggroup.com>