

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, September 29th, 2021

Parquest joins Capza as Advens minority shareholders alongside its founder and the management team

Parquest invests in Advens, the first pure player in cybersecurity and leader in Security-as-a-Service in France, in the context of the operation led by Capza alongside the founder and the Management team. An unprecedented operation paving the way for a new corporate model with a societal impact.

Capza and Parquest enter the capital as minority shareholders, alongside the founder Alexandre Fayeulle and the management, who remain majority shareholders. As a result of the transaction, the shareholding will be extended to one third of Advens' employees.

This is a major operation – which would value Advens at more than 100 million euros – and above all, unprecedented. Indeed, in addition to the company's growth and development objectives, the management and shareholders have chosen to place societal impact at the heart of Advens' business model. On this occasion, up to 40% of the company's financial value will be distributed in the coming years to an endowment fund to support initiatives with a societal impact, in particular to promote the inclusion and education of the younger generation. The endowment fund will be supported from the start by Alexandre Fayeulle, Capza and Parquest in order to quickly launch the first initiatives. Ultimately, it could be the largest endowment fund in Europe on this theme.

Advens offers a comprehensive cybersecurity package that combines high value-added services with an innovative Security-as-a-Service model to meet the growing needs of companies, regardless of their specific sector or business. Advens has therefore developed an operational security centre ("Security-as-a-Service Factory") unique in France, which takes advantage of the best technologies, Artificial Intelligence and human expertise to provide efficient and proven protection against cyberthreats.

Led by Alexandre Fayeulle, founding Chairman, and David Buhan, CEO, Advens supports more than 300 clients in France and abroad. Thanks to the Group's dynamism and capacity for innovation, it has achieved a historic growth of over 20% in its cybersecurity services business. The Group's overall growth has accelerated over the last three years, driven by its rapidly growing Security-as-a-Service offering, at a pace of over 70% per year.

With the support of Capza and Parquest, and by capitalising on the very strong loyalty of its teams and clients, Advens' ambition is to become a leader in cybersecurity and the first Security-as-a-Service provider in Europe.

"Following the announcement of our partnership with Capza in June, we are now very happy to welcome Parquest in the Advens project. As with Capza, we were very keen to embark Parquest on this adventure, a team that perfectly embraces our values and nurtures the same entrepreneurial

and societal ambition. We wanted this association of complementary investors to give an additional impact to our plan, for the protection of our clients and for the progress of society.” – Alexandre Fayeulle, Founder, Advens.

“We are delighted to support Advens in achieving its major technological, economic and societal ambitions. The company's remarkable journey in recent years and its historic commitment to a fairer and more inclusive growth have made it an obvious investment priority for Parquest in 2021.” – Pierre Decré, Partner, Parquest.

“Advens has succeeded in developing a unique model on its market, combining a high-end cyber consulting offer, a disruptive Security-as-a-Service offer with very strong growth, and a constant attractiveness allowing year after year to recruit the best talents in a skills shortage market.” – Camille Coutelet, Investment Manager, Parquest.

About Parquest :

Created in 2002, Parquest Capital is an independent investment firm with a well-established franchise on the French mid-market segment. Since its inception in 2002, Parquest Capital has completed 32 operations with a philosophy of supporting management teams in delivering ambitious growth projects. Parquest Capital recently successfully raised its second fund since its independence from ING group in 2014, for a total of €310m raised.

For more information : www.parquest.fr

Buyer (Parquest) :

Parquest Capital (Pierre Decré, Camille Coutelet, Adrien David)

M&A advisory: Bryan Garnier & Co (Thibaut de Smedt, Stanislas de Gmeline)

Legal advisory and due diligences: Goodwin (Thomas Maitrejean, Mathieu Terrisse, Yong Fei Zhu)

Financial due diligences: Grant Thornton (Emmanuel Riou, Jean-Baptiste Dauriac)

Tax due diligences: MB Avocats (Laurent Mamou)