



Saint-Cyr/Menthon, France, 11 May 2015



## LAMBERET SAS: A SPECTACULAR TURNAROUND CONFIRMED BY A NEW INTERNATIONAL CLASS SHAREHOLDER.

Since its creation in 2009, **Lamberet SAS has posted 6 consecutive years of strong growth.**

The consolidated turnover for 2014 amounted to 140 million Euros (2009: 70 million Euros) for which over 50% was achieved in export, or an 18% increase in the level of invoicing, compared to 2013.

The first four months of 2015 confirm this dynamism: the order book amounted to 41 million Euros at the end of April, **up 50%** compared to the same period in the previous year. LAMBERET SAS now distributes its bodywork in **37 countries** and during the period has welcomed 80 new staff to its site at Saint-Cyr/Menthon (Ain, France), increasing capacity at this factory to 17 heavy vehicles [HGVs] and 16 commercial vehicles (CVs/LCVs) per day, which is a record. Lamberet thus employs nearly **850 staff** in Europe and is indisputably **the only European manufacturer offering a product range from 1 to 100 m<sup>3</sup>**, meeting every requirement of the refrigerated transport sector.

It is this spectacular growth that is the mark of a clear turnaround, which has attracted a new shareholder, the AVIC/XINFEI Group. Erick MEJEAN, Managing Director of LAMBERET SAS, stresses: *"This success is, amongst other things, the fruit of a complete renewal, in under 5 years, of our product ranges, now segmented into categories dedicated to each business. These innovations have been rewarded by 5 major international prizes, such as the **TRAILER INNOVATION AWARD 2013** which was won at the IAA trade fair (Hanover, Germany) with the SR2 SuperCity refrigerated semi-trailer. The commercial vehicles range also warrants recognition, and the New Frigoline range launched in 2014 has successfully equipped 100% of the platform and chassis cabs under 7 t on the market. Its growing dominance will be supported in June 2015 by the **transition to three shifts at the production site located at Sarreguemines (Moselle France)**, which is dedicated to the manufacture of composite insulating panels. In order to meet the demand for our range of integrated insulation units for vans, **we are working on the construction of a new, ultra-modern, 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> production site in France.**"*

It is in this context, combining self-financed growth, significant success and strong ambitions, that the LAMBERET group has a change of shareholder.

**On 8 May 2015, the company XINFEI FRANCE acquired 100% of the shares in LAMBERET SAS.**

XINFEI FRANCE is the French subsidiary of the Chinese international group AVIC. This acquisition takes place in line with continuity, **Erick MEJEAN is confirmed in his position as Managing Director and joins the supervisory board of LAMBERET SAS.** LAMBERET SAS remains a French company, registered on the companies and businesses register of Bourg-en-Bresse (Ain, France). The change of shareholder does not involve any change in managerial organisation structure or overall operation of the group.

LAMBERET SAS was formed in April 2009 following the liquidation of LAMBERET CONSTRUCTIONS ISOTHERMES SA. **Under this new shareholding and managerial supervision, the group experienced a completely spectacular turnaround**, recognised, amongst others, by the ULYSSE award for a company turnaround and by the BFM AWARD of "Manager of the Year" won by Erick MEJEAN, its Managing Director.

**The AVIC group is principally active in the field of aeronautics.** It is familiar with techniques used in this field, such as composite materials. It is also active in the field of land transport vehicle equipment, and in medical, electrical and refrigeration equipment.

**As the number one Chinese aircraft manufacturer, AVIC has developed a formidable expertise with European and American companies**, via first ranking joint ventures (AIRBUS, BOEING, GENERAL ELECTRIC, ROLLS ROYCE, SAFRAN, etc...) and collaborations such as a 5% participation by the AIRBUS GROUP (ex EADS) in the capital of its subsidiary AVICHINA. The AVIC manufacturing group overall can call upon 400,000 staff distributed through 200 companies operating in over 100 countries.



**Erick MEJEAN, Managing Director of LAMBERET SAS, concludes:**

*"This is a great story which continues to be written today.*

*The performance of LAMBERET SAS and the efforts made by our teams in these recent years are such that we have been able to attract one of the largest international high-tech groups in the world. **This is something that all our employees can be very proud of. I would like to thank all our partners and clients who have supported or joined us.** Without them, and their confidence in us, this great story could not have been written. They can be sure of our capability of continuing to build on everything that has formed the basis for the reconstruction of our success: this permanent quest for quality and ground-breaking innovations, at the service of their efficiency.*

**LAMBERET, now supported by a powerful manufacturing group, can reinforce its capacity for innovation and its competitiveness, benefitting from the R&D and purchasing synergies of the AVIC group. In addition, through AVIC, we have opportunities that will ultimately enable us to become established in new strategic markets."**

**Further information on Lamberet can be found on our web site, in 5 languages:**

**[www.lamberet.com](http://www.lamberet.com)**

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