

PRESS RELEASE

Icecat Capital invests in NPEX as a new shareholder as part of €2 million financing round

The Hague/Amsterdam, March 24, 2023 - NPEX BV, the Dutch stock exchange for SMEs, has completed a €2 million financing round. This financing round was led by existing shareholders, including CEO Mark van der Plas. Icecat Capital, the investment fund of Icecat NV, also joins as a new shareholder with a participation of just under 10%.

Icecat NV offers product information to retailers and webshops worldwide. The company focuses on improving the online shopping experience for consumers. Through Icecat Capital, the company invests in promising platform and SaaS companies such as VirtuaGym last year. With the investment in NPEX, Icecat Capital shows that it has confidence in the potential of the exchange platform and the value it can offer to SMEs.

The NPEX stock exchange brings entrepreneurs and investors together for financing, impact and financial returns. This offers SMEs the opportunity to raise capital by issuing bonds and depositary receipts of shares. These securities are then tradable on the NPEX stock exchange. The platform has already helped SMEs to raise more than €170 million in total. Icecat Capital's investment will contribute to the further development of the platform and increase the possibilities for SMEs.

"We are pleased with Icecat Capital's investment and the confidence they have in our platform," said Mark van der Plas, CEO of NPEX. "It enables us to further shape our ambition to make the capital market more accessible to SMEs and to further grow and improve the platform where retail and institutional investors can trade securities."

"Both as a listed company and investor, we are excited about the financing options that NPEX offers to SMEs," says Icecat CEO, Martijn Hoogeveen. "With our investment in NPEX, we want to support the further development of the tech platform and help to give even more SMEs access to the capital market. Not only within the Netherlands, but also in neighboring EU countries."

With the financing of €2 million and the entry of Icecat Capital as a new shareholder, NPEX is well positioned to further strengthen its position in the market and to expand its services.

End press release.

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