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Decarbonisation: the Apave Group announces the acquisition of Aktio thus strengthening its expertise in sustainability and carbon accounting

Apave, an international group with over 150 years of experience, specialising in the management of technical, environmental, human and digital risks, is strengthening its expertise in carbon accounting and decarbonisation pathways with the acquisition of Aktio.

Aktio, a major player in the sustainability sector in France

Created in 2020, Aktio is a French expert in carbon accounting who is recognised in the sustainability market and whose expertise combines excellence in consulting and technological innovation with the development of SaaS software for accounting and managing greenhouse gas emissions.

The company has grown steadily since its creation and has been certified B-Corp[™] since 2022. It now has around 40 experts, climate consultants and web developers. Aktio has supported 500 organisations in their decarbonisation challenges, and its software is used by dozens of partner consulting firms.

Aktio has unrivalled expertise, particularly in serving French and European mid-caps, whose need for support on sustainability issues is accelerating. Its hybrid offering combines 'Climate Consulting' and 'Greenhouse Gas Accounting and Management Software'.

Thanks to its platform, which complies with the Bilan Carbone® method and is compatible with all current methodological standards, Aktio supports its customers in:

- Measuring their carbon footprint
- Setting ambitions and defining a low-carbon trajectory (e.g. SBTi)
- Implementing decarbonisation plans
- Ensuring regulatory compliance (e.g. CSRD)
- Communicating and training on the low-carbon transition approach

Aktio's ambition is to offer each organisation a digital platform tailored to its needs, and to support it in building its low-carbon transition strategy, which must be compatible with the Paris Agreement and France's National Low Carbon Strategy.

Aktio and Apave, an unprecedented synergy to reinforce a strategic ambition

Apave's acquisition of Aktio is part of the growth dynamic that the Group has been pursuing since the launch of the strategic plan at the end of 2020, this time with the **aim of supporting its clients in the management of their climate risks and sustainability trajectories**. Aktio thus becomes the Group's 26th acquisition.

This new entity, Aktio-Apave, formed by combining Aktio's experts and consultants and the experts and consultants from Apave's 'Climate and Sustainability' department, has become the Apave Group's benchmark entity in terms of sustainability.

Aktio - Apave is positioning itself as a **leading player in sustainability consulting, thanks to a very concrete and operational service offering and an innovative ESG software publisher**. In this way, the Apave Group intends to accelerate its ability to respond to the growing needs expressed by its clients in the implementation of more sustainable practices, by integrating environmental, social and governance issues into their operations.

Aktio – Apave, a further acceleration of the Apave Group's 'Green&Social' range of services

Aktio's arrival in the Group strengthens Apave's 'Green & Social' range of services, which aims to support the success of their clients' transition plans (energy transition, climate transition, social and societal transition, etc.).

With all the technical expertise that exists within the Group, Apave is now able to respond to the following ESG issues:

Environment:

- Carbon footprint and decarbonisation trajectory
- Biodiversity
- Energy performance
- Adaptation to climate change
- Pollution of air, water or soil

Social and societal:

- Skills development and maintaining employability
- Certificate courses in health and safety at work
- Health, ergonomics, quality of working life (QWL)

Governance

- ESG due diligence
- Training of governance bodies in sustainability issues
- Support in the production of sustainability reports
- Verification of sustainability reports or mission-driven companies a legal business structure in France that, in addition to their for-profit purpose, have a social or environmental purpose as set out in their articles of association (via RSE France, an independent subsidiary of the Apave Group)
- Certification (ISO14001, 45001, 50001, 27001, etc.)

All of these tasks can be carried out in the form of inspections/audits, training, measurements, consulting or certifications.

The value provided by Apave lies in its ability to support its customers, combining in-depth knowledge of regulations and technical standards with long-standing experience in the field and a pragmatic and operational methodological approach.

A multi-faceted approach is necessary so that their clients' roadmaps can become an operational reality and achieve their ambition.

"Apave has always accompanied the various revolutions by guaranteeing the safety of people, property and the environment. Today, we are taking a new step with the acquisition of Aktio, fully in line with our corporate purpose: "To act as a trusted partner to make the world safer, more sustainable and a source of shared progress". We are thus accelerating our desire to be able to support our clients even more and better in their sustainable performance objectives, whether these relate to technical, human, environmental, digital or climate issues. We have always been able to address them and are enthusiastically continuing our efforts to remain at the cutting edge of expertise," **stated Philippe Maillard, CEO of the Apave Group.**

"Aktio was launched in 2020 to give all organisations the means to act, concretely and collectively, to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. At a time when the risks and consequences of climate change are intensifying, it is more essential than ever to democratise the low-carbon transition as quickly as possible. Joining the Apave Group, a leading player in environmental consulting and auditing, is an exceptional acceleration opportunity for Aktio, to equip, train and support the carbon accountants of tomorrow," **stated the three co-founders of Aktio, Laurent Barbezieux, Alex Huyn and Thibault Faninger.**

About the Apave Group

Apave is an international group with over 150 years of experience in technical, human, environmental and digital risk management. An independent company with a turnover of €1.4 billion in 2024, Apave currently has 17,500 employees, 130 branches in France, 170 training sites in France and abroad and more than 20 testing and equipment qualification centres. Apave has an international presence in nearly 60 countries. Apave provides inspection, certification, technical training, testing and measurement and consulting services to private companies and public. For more information, visit <u>www.apave.com</u>.

About Aktio

Founded in 2020, accelerated since 2021 by 50 Partners Impact and funded by Asterion Ventures, Aktio is a leading player in the measurement and management of greenhouse gas emissions, which publishes SaaS software and supports organisations in their decarbonisation strategy. Its software complies with the main carbon accounting methodological standards (Bilan Carbone®, GHG Protocol, ISO 14064, SBTi). Used by more than 500 companies and local authorities, and a network of consultant partners, Aktio manages 30 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent, i.e. nearly 10% of total annual emissions in France. More information on <u>www.aktio.cc</u>

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