# LAUNCHMETRICS



FAMILLE CIPIO PARTNERS

EMBARGOED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

# Launchmetrics raises \$50M to continue its rapid growth as the Leading Marketing Platform & Analytics Solution for the Fashion, Luxury and Cosmetics industries SaaS & Data Analytics Company Secures Funding from Bpifrance, Seventure, Cipio Partners and Famille C

NEW YORK, NY (SEPTEMBER 5, 2018) - Launchmetrics, the leading marketing platform and analytics solution for the Fashion, Luxury and Cosmetic (FLC) industries, today announced that it has closed \$50 million in financing led by Bpifrance, followed by Seventure, Cipio Partners and Famille C (Famille Courtin-Clarins). With the support of this funding the company's projected to grow from \$25m to \$100m in revenue over the next 4 years, leveraging an organic growth and a strategic M&A program.

"I am excited to share the news of our latest fundraising, it really highlights the contribution we have been able to bring to our customers and the industry to date," said Michael Jais, CEO of Launchmetrics. "As the leading marketing platform and analytics solution for the Fashion, Luxury and Cosmetics industries, I am confident this additional capital will help us accelerate our business across Asia, the Middle East and Europe as well as further invest in the development of cutting-edge data technologies that will transform the way marketing works for these industries in the future."

More than 1,000 brands and over 50,000 influencers in the Fashion, Luxury and Cosmetics (FLC) space rely on Launchmetrics' tools every day to help them identify the most influential voices in the industry, activate those voices and measure the results of their marketing and communication campaigns. The funding will help the business further support their existing clients and focus on growing each one of those relationships.

The company is set for rapid team expansion with over 150 new hires slated in the next two years in marketing, sales, software development and data. Additionally, there will be focus

on product development and innovation, with specific attention to internal research being conducted in their Data Lab which is developing visual recognition algorithms to automatically tag brands, products and people from images created or shared by influencers, allowing brands to analyze the media impact value created directly from this user created visual content across web and social media. The capital will also be used to scale existing territories including the US, UK and Europe with a strong focus on growing markets such as Germany, Asia and the Middle East with heavy investment in data and social monitoring in Asia.

"Over the years we have helped build many successful companies and pride ourselves on our ability to identify those with a lot of potential. We have been very impressed with Launchmetrics' innovative technology, category authority and growth dynamics," said Nicolas Herschtel, Deputy Managing Director, Large Venture at Bpifrance. "They have a strong vision for the future of Fashion & Luxury Technology and we look forward to being part of their journey as they become the worldwide leader in marketing solutions."

According to recent Luxury Insight and Bain reports, the marketing spend for FLC companies is estimated at \$248bn annually and millennials already represent over 40% of luxury customers. With the rise of the millennial consumer and the return to authenticity in marketing strategies worldwide, brands are seeing a shift from traditional advertising to influencer (digital) marketing, creating a demand in the marketplace for companies who can facilitate those relationships between brands and influencers as well as benchmark & measure results within the industry through technology.

Today, Launchmetrics' team of over 40 data scientists and analysts work with the company's technology teams to develop proprietary algorithms that leverage AI technology and real machine learning to bring cutting-edge changes to FLC industries. They monitor over 20,000 brands daily as well as 50k media outlets and 100k influencers for:

- REAL-TIME BIG DATA
  - Crawling, processing and augmenting in real time terabytes of data everyday coming from millions of website, blogs, professional social accounts and print data.
- CUTTING-EDGE MACHINE LEARNING
  - Creating robust algorithms (deep learning) for text and image analysis in order to monitor trends linked to brands/events/people/product types across Print, Online and Social to produce industry benchmarking and trend insights as well as predict future campaign performance across these channels and voices
- GRAPH THEORY
  - Innovative graph analysis algorithms to compute community-based distance between brands and map them into custom spaces where one can visualize their positioning in a market vs competitors or potential partners.

The company was founded in 2016 out of a merger by Augure (Paris), a global powerhouse in Influencer Marketing Software and Fashion GPS (New York), the premier technology provider of the Fashion Industry. Since then, the company has grown 100% adding top tier clients such as Givenchy, Swarovski, Swatch Group, Adidas, among others. This Fall, Launchmetrics will roll out its newest influencer relationship management tool across Europe with a global analytics platform launching in January 2019. The new tool will allow brands to understand how various marketing and communications activities impact their Brand Equity across different voices, channels, media types, time periods, products, regions and equates a monetary value to these projects to help them better arbitrate their budgets in the future as well as optimize campaign performance.

To learn more about Launchmetrics, please visit **launchmetrics.com**.

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Jefferies acted as sole financial advisor to Launchmetrics.

#### **About Launchmetrics**

Launchmetrics is a Marketing Platform and Analytics Solution to help Fashion, Luxury and Cosmetics professionals discover, activate and measure the voices that matter for their brands. It is the most essential and trusted platform in the industry, yielding an unrivalled market penetration to the top seventy fashion and luxury brands worldwide including Dior, Fendi, NET-A-PORTER, Topshop and more.

Founded in NYC with operating headquarters in Paris, and offices in Milan, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Madrid, and Girona (Spain) and support in five languages; the company works with over 1,000 brands as well as partners like IMG, the Council of Fashion Designers of America, the British Fashion Council, Pltti Uomo, and Google, to accelerate their business and build lasting exposure. The company's industry communities GPS Radar & Style Coalition bring together over 50,000 influencers, editors, buyers and more to share content, events, news, images and more.

# **About Bpifrance**

Bpifrance is the French national investment bank: it finances businesses – at every stage of their development – through loans, guarantees, equity investments and export insurances. Bpifrance also provides extrafinancial services (training, consultancy...). to help entrepreneurs meet their challenges (innovation, export...).

For more information, please visit: www.bpifrance.fr and presse.bpifrance.fr – Follow us on Twitter: @Bpifrance - @BpifrancePresse

# **About Cipio Partners**

Founded in 2003, Cipio Partners is a leading investment management and advisory firm in the secondary direct and growth capital market. Cipio Partners manages a portfolio of growth stage technology investments from offices in Luxembourg and Munich. Cipio Partners targets European technology businesses with €10-100 million in revenue and makes initial investments ranging from €3-10 million per company. Further information is available at www.cipiopartners.com

# **About Seventure Partners**

With over €690m in assets under management as of the end of 2017, Seventure Partners is a leading venture capital firm in Europe. Since 1997, Seventure Partners has invested in innovative businesses with high growth potential in two fields: Digital technologies in France and Germany, and Life sciences across Europe, Asia, Israel and North America. In Digital technologies, the three main areas of focus include Fintech / Insurtech, innovative services and software. Investments can range between €500 000m and €10m per round, or up to €20m per company, from early to late stage. Seventure Partners is a subsidiary of Natixis Investment Managers, which ranks among the world's largest asset management companies<sup>[1]</sup> (818.1 billion of assets under management<sup>[2]</sup>). Natixis Investment Managers is a subsidiary of Natixis. Listed on the Paris Stock Exchange, Natixis is the corporate finance, management and financial services bank of BPCE, the second largest banking group in France. For more details: <u>www.seventure.com</u> / Twitter @SeventureP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup> Cerulli Quantitative Update: Global Markets 2017 ranked Natixis Investment Managers S.A 15<sup>th</sup> largest asset management company in the world, based on assets under management as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup> Net asset value at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017