



Paris, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

## Press release

### **THE PROFESSIONAL RISK PREVENTION TRAINING GROUP GO ! FORMATIONS INTEGRATES GERARD FORMATION**

**GO! Formations, leader in professional risk prevention training in the Grand Est region of France, announces the acquisition of Gérard Formation, thus completing its first buy-and-build operation since Activa acquired a majority stake in early 2024.**

Founded in 2001 by Jean-Claude Gérard and based near Epinal, Gérard Formation is a professional training company specialized in the safe operation of handling equipment and the prevention of workplace accidents.

This acquisition enables Go! Formations to strengthen its regional coverage, extending its catchment area into the Vosges and reinforcing its expertise in CACES training. Jean-Claude Gérard retains his operational role, reinvests in the GO! group and will continue to ensure the long-term future of the business alongside his long-standing team.

Thierry Mangin and Sébastien Picard, Chairman and CEO of GO! Formations, declare: *“This first acquisition is perfectly in line with the external growth strategy we have developed alongside Activa, and gives concrete expression to our ambitions to become one of the leading players in professional risk prevention training. We are delighted to be working with Jean-Claude, whom we have known for many years already, and are convinced that he and his teams will be a major asset for the group development.”*

Jean-Claude Gérard adds: *“Gérard Formation could not have hoped for a better partner than GO! Formations to pursue its development. We share common values and the same vision of how our profession should evolve. “*

Alexandre Masson and Christophe Parier, Managing Partners of Activa, add: *“This rapid acquisition, less than 6 months after we took a stake in the company, fits in perfectly with the roadmap set out with GO! Formations. The integration of Gérard Formation will undoubtedly strengthen GO! Formations position as regional market leader and open up new opportunities for growth. We are convinced that this association will be fruitful for all parties involved.”*

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### **Contributors**

Go ! Formations: Thierry Mangin, Sébastien Picard, Mathieu Piquard, Julien Matter

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Activa: Alexandre Masson, Frédéric Singer, Camille Emin, Valentine Loyer

Banque Populaire (senior debt): Clément Zecchin, Jérôme Taite

### **Advisors**

M&A advisor: Adviso Partners (Michaël Chicheportiche)

Financial advisor: Exelmans (Stéphane Dahan, Thibault Gerald, Nicolas Paris)

Corporate legal advisor: Fidal (Brice Voilequin, Nicolas Soukatchoff) and ACD (Philippe Sester)

Legal financing advisor: Agilys Avocats (Frédéricque Milotic, Rabah Meddour)

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