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Le 26 avril 2011

**LES SECONDARY FUNDS SOUS GESTION DE HARBOURVEST ET
HARBOURVEST GLOBAL PRIVATE EQUITY LIMITED
ANNONCENT UNE OFFRE PUBLIQUE D'ACQUISITION PORTANT SUR
TOUTES LES ACTIONS AU PORTEUR DE ABSOLUTE PRIVATE EQUITY SA.**

- **OFFRE PUBLIQUE D'ACQUISITION A \$17.25 PAR ACTION ABSOLUTE AVEC UNE VALEUR POUVANT ALLER JUSQU'A \$752 MILLIONS**
- **LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DE ABSOLUTE VA RECOMMANDER AUX ACTIONNAIRES DE ABSOLUTE D'ACCEPTER L'OFFRE**

HarbourVest Partners, LLC ("HarbourVest"), une société de private equity global de premier plan, a annoncé aujourd'hui que les Secondary Funds sous gestion de HarbourVest ensemble avec HarbourVest Global Private Equity Limited ("HVPE"), une société d'investissement closed-end, ont l'intention de faire une offre publique d'acquisition, par le biais d'un véhicule d'acquisition, portant sur toutes les actions au porteur de Absolute Private Equity SA ("Absolute") actuellement en mains du public. Absolute est une société d'investissement incorporée en Suisse et listée au SIX Swiss Exchange.

L'offre publique est de \$17.25 en espèces par action Absolute et est conditionnée par un taux d'acceptation minimum de 50.01% des actions Absolute en mains du public et par d'autres conditions usuelles. A un taux d'acceptation de 100%, cela correspond à une évaluation de Absolute à \$752 millions. L'annonce préalable de l'offre publique d'acquisition a été publiée aujourd'hui, et le prospectus d'offre sera publié au plus tard au début juin 2011. Le conseil d'administration de Absolute soutient l'offre et a l'intention de recommander l'acceptation de l'offre à ses actionnaires dans son rapport formel.

Absolute investit avant tout dans des fonds non-publics dans divers secteurs industriels du marché de private equity en mettant l'accent sur des fonds US-américains, européens et internationaux de buyout et de venture capital. En date du 21 avril 2011, le Net Asset Value

("NAV") par action Absolute est de \$24.16. Au SIX Swiss Exchange le cours moyen à 60 jours de l'action pondéré par le volume (volume weighted average price) est de \$16.25 en date du 21 avril 2011.

“HarbourVest est une société d'investissement de premier plan dans le private equity global et, du fait de sa grande expérience dans la gestion de Private Equity Partnership Portfolios, un partenaire idéal pour Absolute Private Equity,” dit Thomas Amstutz, le président du conseil d'administration de Absolute Private Equity SA. “Cette transaction offre la possibilité aux actionnaires soit de vendre leur investissement à un prix attractif, soit de rester investis avec un partenaire expérimenté.”

“La spécialité du Secondary Team de HarbourVest est de trouver des opportunités spécifiques d'investissement dans le cadre desquelles des solutions sont offertes aux détenteurs de placements private equity,” dit John Toomey, directeur de HarbourVest Partners, LLC. “Nous nous réjouissons de pouvoir coopérer avec le conseil d'administration de Absolute. Il s'agit d'une bonne opportunité pour les Secondary Funds gérés par HarbourVest et pour HVPE d'acquérir une participation importante dans le portefeuille d'un private equity global de haute qualité.”

Le Flagship Secondary Fund de HarbourVest, Dover Street VII L.P., est un fond global comprenant \$2.9 milliards de commitments des investisseurs. Après avoir été sursouscrit, le fond fut fermé en avril 2009. Aujourd'hui le fond effectue des investissements sur le marché secondaire par le biais de placements dans le venture capital, le leveraged buyout et dans d'autres actifs de private equity, ainsi que par des participations dans des sociétés exploitantes.

Il est prévu que la transaction soit terminée au cours du troisième trimestre de 2011. HarbourVest est conseillé par Debevoise & Plimpton LLP et Pestalozzi Attorneys at Law Ltd.

Informations additionnelles concernant la participation de HVPE

Il est prévu que l'engagement de HVPE dans la transaction soit de 10%. Selon les résultats de l'offre publique d'acquisition, cela correspond à \$38 millions au moins. HVPE a l'intention de financer son engagement au moyen de la facilité de crédit existante de \$500 millions. Cette transaction n'aura pas d'influence sur le programme de rachat d'actions préalablement annoncé par HVPE, ni sur sa capacité de rembourser sa facilité de crédit avant son échéance en décembre 2014.

Selon Sir Michael Bunbury, président du conseil d'administration de HVPE: “Cette transaction permet à HarbourVest Global Private Equity de suivre une stratégie d'investissement opportuniste et de profiter de sa relation avec les gérants du fond pour participer à l'acquisition d'un portefeuille attractif dans le domaine du placement private equity. Etant donné la durée de maturité du portefeuille, le conseil d'administration est

d'avis qu'il s'agit-là d'une utilisation positive et appropriée de la facilité de crédit de la société.”

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Notes to Editors:

About HarbourVest Partners, LLC:

HarbourVest Partners, LLC is an independent global private equity firm that invests in venture capital, buyout, mezzanine debt, and distressed debt through primary partnerships, secondary purchases, and direct investments. Since 1984, HarbourVest has been a leading buyer of private equity assets, acquiring \$8 billion of assets in over 350 deals of all stages, types, vintages, and geographies and working with all types of sellers, including financial institutions, corporations, pension plans, government entities, endowments, and family offices. This flexibility enables HarbourVest to offer sellers of private equity comprehensive liquidity solutions. Over the years, more than 300 institutional investors throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, Latin America, and Asia have committed over US\$30 billion to funds managed by HarbourVest. It currently has 236 employees in its Boston office and London, Hong Kong, and Tokyo subsidiaries.

About HarbourVest Global Private Equity Limited:

HarbourVest Global Private Equity Limited ("HVPE") is a Guernsey-incorporated closed-end investment company which has a dual listing on both the London Stock Exchange and Euronext Amsterdam. HVPE is registered as an investment institution with the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets. HVPE is designed to offer shareholders long-term capital appreciation by investing in a private equity portfolio diversified by geography, by stage of investment, by vintage year, and by industry. It invests in and

alongside HarbourVest-managed funds which focus on primary partnership commitments, secondary investments, and direct investments in operating companies. HVPE is advised by HarbourVest Advisers L.P., an affiliate of HarbourVest Partners, LLC.

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United States

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United Kingdom

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