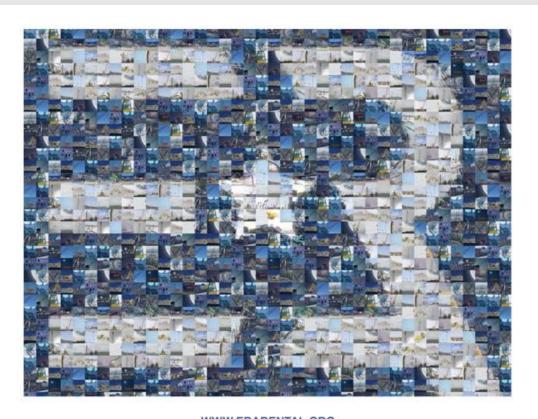
## **ERA Convention 2012**

"Changing Rental"

## PRIVATE OWNERSHIP VS. FINANCIAL EQUITY

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### **Brief overview of Sagard**

- Sagard is a financial investor backed by a small group of industrial families
- Despite being a private equity firm, Sagard is looking for industrial value creation ahead of financial engineering
  - Supporting management teams in implementing ambitious development strategies...
  - And therefore driven by a longer term horizon and a custom-made structuring...
  - Considering controlling positions as well as minority stakes
- 20 investments and over €1.3bn deployed since April 2004
- Strong domestic footprint in France, Switzerland and Belgium
- o Equity tickets ranging from €30m to €150m



## Sagard involvement in the equipment rental industry

- Acquisition of a controlling stake in Kiloutou (2005)
  - Francky Mulliez, founder, remains as a minority shareholder and chairman of the board
  - Top managers become significant shareholders
  - Employees have the possibility to acquire shares (500+ out of 2000 employees)
  - Low leverage at entry (<2.5x) to secure ambitious development plan</li>
- Despite economical crisis, strong value creation over the period 2005-2011
  - Our investment thesis: Kiloutou is a fantastic business model which can be developed
  - Revenue and EBITDA are multiplied by 2 over the period
  - 172 branch opening, €360m invested in equipment, €30m invested in acquisitions
- In 2011, Sagard sold a controlling stake to PAI, remaining a significant shareholder alongside management and Francky Mulliez



# Why this transition from private ownership to financial equity has been a success?

#### Franky Mulliez, founder, achieved personal objectives

- Wealth diversification
- Find a professional shareholder allowing him, at the age of 60, to focus on other centers of interest...
- While remaining a significant minority shareholder and chairman of the board

### The transaction allowed employees ownership

- A strong incentive program build for top management
- Corporate culture secured, notably through employees ownership (a real asset during tough times)

#### Lastly, the transaction generated benefits for the business

- Financial shareholder securing Kiloutou's development (human & financial resources)
- Financial shareholder securing independence, mobility and reactivity
- On top of all this, strong value creation for all parties



### The appeal of financial equity

- Financial equity can solve potential private ownership issues
  - Allows wealth diversification...
  - Or succession issues...
  - According to tailor made structuring (minority / majority ownership)
- Financial equity brings financial resources, but not only
  - Financial fire power but also support of a professional and independent shareholder
  - Financial discipline / cash management
  - Network benefits / economical sensors
- Financial equity allows management / employees ownership
  - Financial incentive
  - Cement for corporate culture / LBO effect
- Financial equity could facilitate leverage
  - Bank debt / Convertible bonds / Tax efficiency
- => A a unique growth catalysts



# Private ownership and financial equity can also complement

#### Kiloutou as an example

- Financial equity ownership....
- But strong influence / rights of private ownership

#### Financial equity can serve as a temporary bridge

- Different timing horizon
- A bridge between two generations of a family
- A bridge to accompany a transformational event (acquisition, IPO ...)

#### Both have to learn from each other!