



Accelerating Innovation with  & 

wild bunch

## Iris Capital exits Wild Bunch

**Paris, Berlin, February 5, 2015** – As part of the just completed combination of Wild Bunch SA and Senator Entertainment AG, Iris Capital sold its stake in French film distribution group Wild Bunch.

Since Iris Capital's initial investment, Wild Bunch more than quintupled its revenues, developed its direct distribution activities in new markets such as Germany, Italy and Spain and took positions in direct electronic distribution.

Wild Bunch is now joining forces with German player Senator Entertainment to form an even stronger leading European independent filmed entertainment distribution and production group, with a strengthened position in Germany, well positioned to pursue its growth as a global player with capabilities across all distribution channels, from theaters to digital.

Vincent Grimond, Chairman and CEO of Wild Bunch, said: *"The new financially restructured Senator Entertainment benefiting from the strong support of its key shareholder Sapinda and of its stock market listing in Germany, is a perfect partner for the next phase of our company's development."*

Erik de la Rivière, Partner of Iris Capital, said: *"We are very proud and happy to have backed Wild Bunch and its outstanding management team in its development into a leading pan-European player. We are also very happy to see Wild Bunch embark into an exciting new development phase."*

### **About Wild Bunch:**

Wild Bunch is a leading independent European filmed entertainment distribution and production company that manages a library of more than 1,800 titles. A major player in international sales the company developed a pan-European distribution network and is committed to direct distribution in France with (Wild Bunch Distribution & Wild Side), in Italy (BIM Distribuzione), in Germany (Wild Bunch Germany/Central Film) and in Spain (Vertigo). Wild Bunch has also positioned itself on the market of direct electronic distribution via its French VOD/SVOD platform, FilmoTV.

Wild Bunch recently sold internationally and directly distributed across its various home territories such renowned independent movies like *The Artist* by Michel Hazanavicius, *Adieu au langage* by Jean-Luc Godard, *Welcome to New York* by Abel Ferrara, *Jimmy's Hall* by Ken Loach, *Two Days One Night* by Dardenne's Brothers, *Blue is the Warmest Color* by Abdellatif Kechiche, *Twelve Years a Slave* by Steve McQueen, *The Little Prince* by Mark Osborne...

### **About Iris Capital:**

Iris Capital is a pan-European venture capital fund manager specializing in digital economy. Since its inception in 1986, the Iris Capital team has invested more than € 1 billion in more than 230 companies. Iris Capital targets opportunities in service or technology companies, seeking growth capital in order to realize their strategy. It provides active support to its portfolio companies on the basis of its strong sector specialization and experience, and has offices in Paris, Cologne, San Francisco, Montreal, Riyadh, Dubai, Beijing and Tokyo. In 2012 Iris Capital has entered into a strategic partnership with Orange and Publicis to manage their joint venture capital initiative.

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