



## **QuattroR reached a binding agreement to dispose its stake in Casalasco Società Agricola S.p.A. to FSI**

### **The QuattroR Fund successfully concludes its divestment, while the Casalasco member farms strengthen their role as stable and key partners**

Milan/Rivarolo del Re (CR), 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025 – QuattroR SGR SpA signed a binding agreement with FSI for the sale of its shareholding in Casalasco Spa, a leading Italian agribusiness group active in the selection, cultivation and processing of tomatoes, packaging and marketing of its derivatives, with a portfolio of brands representative of the “Made in Italy” excellence, encompassing De Rica, Pomì and Pummarò, as well as internationally renowned brands such as Pomito and Tomato al Gusto.

Following the completion of this transaction, the agricultural member farms, through the Consorzio Casalasco del Pomodoro and its holding company, will strengthen their stake in Casalasco S.p.A., playing a key role in the Group’s further development project. QuattroR will have the opportunity to invest in Casalasco again through the QuattroR MidCap fund, which replicates the distinctive ‘Money-In’ strategy in the segment of Italian SMEs operating in key sectors for the economic system.

The development strategy implemented by Casalasco in recent years, led by a top-notch management team and its CEO Costantino Vaia, is unique in the European context, standing out for its integrated agricultural supply chain, great attention to quality, sustainability and distinctive values embedded in its mission.

Since QuattroR’s investment in 2021 with a €100 million capital increase, Casalasco has embarked on a path of significant growth, both industrially and in terms of profitability. Over the last three years, revenues have risen from €330 million to over €600 million in 2023 and with a more than proportional growth in margins, along with major investments focused on industrial plants, energy efficiency and reduced water consumption, and the creation of an advanced Innovation Centre. In recent weeks, the Company also announced the start-up of the integrated supply chain to produce pesto and semi-finished products from fresh basil, with which the Group enters a highly attractive market with a premium and distinctive proposition.

In the meantime Casalasco finalised four strategic acquisitions to consolidate its position: Emiliana Conserve SpA (2022), focused on strengthening its industrial and agricultural base, De Martino Srl (2023), dedicated to exporting Italian food products to high value-added markets such as Scandinavia and Japan, the premium brand Knorr Tomato al Gusto (2025), acquired from the Unilever group and leader on the German market, along with brands Pummarò, Polpabella and Sugo Lampo (2025), leader on the Italian market from the STAR group.

Francesco Conte, CEO of QuattroR SGR and Vice-Chairman of Casalasco S.p.A., commented: "We are extremely satisfied with Casalasco’s results, which represents a case of great success within the Italian agri-food sector and the first divestment of the QuattroR fund that fully reflects the value of what has been created. Working in partnership with a high-standing management team, we have achieved extraordinary growth and further strengthened Casalasco's leadership in the sector, with significant strategic acquisitions and investments supporting the entire system. For QuattroR, this transaction perfectly represents our “Money-In” strategy and our commitment to supporting the development and transformation of excellences of “Made in Italy”. We will continue to focus on strategic opportunities that can generate long-term value, both for our investors and for the wider system in which we operate".

Costantino Vaia, CEO of Casalasco, concluded: “I would like to thank the QuattroR Fund and its representatives for having entrusted our Group and having accompanied us along a very satisfying path of growth. The support of its managers then, especially in the extraordinary M&A operations, allowed us to ensure the achievement of the ambitious goals we had set ourselves. We are now working for the future of Casalasco



SpA and its 800 member farms, alongside another prestigious partner such as FSI, with whom we have already planned a new phase of dimensional development and shared value creation”.

The transaction is subject to customary regulatory approvals.

In the transaction, the vendors were assisted by Vitale & Co. Spa and Unicredit, along with Gatti Pavesi Bianchi Ludovici and Talea as legal advisors.

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## **QUATTRO R SGR**

Founded in 2017, QuattroR SGR SpA is the management company, entirely owned by its partners, of two private equity funds with committed capital in excess of €850 million, recognized by its specific mission to strengthen the capital structure and support the growth ambitions of excellent Italian companies.

With an aggregate turnover of over €5 billion and 16,000 employees, of which 6,000 in Italy, QuattroR's portfolio includes 7 investments: Burgo, the Italian and European leader in the production and distribution of graphic and specialty papers and cardboard for packaging; Cigierre, the Italian leader in Casual dining; Elemaster Tecnologie Elettroniche Group, the Italian leader in the design and manufacturing of high-complexity electronic systems and mechatronic devices; Fagioli, a leading international engineering company in special transport and movements; Ceramiche Ricchetti Group, an international player active in the production and marketing of ceramic surfaces; MTD Group, a multinational company active in medical devices and consumer health products with the iconic 'Pic' and 'Droplet' brands and Segafredo Zanetti, a world leader in the production, processing and distribution of roasted coffee.

## **CASALASCO**

Casalasco is an agribusiness group leader in selecting, cultivating and processing tomatoes, as well as packaging and marketing their derivative products. Founded in 1977, the organization now represents the first integrated supply chain for processing tomatoes in Italy and one of the most important worldwide. It sells its products in 74 countries, supported by the work of 800 member farms, 5 factories and 70 production lines. The company, with 2,000 permanent and seasonal employees, has a turnover of more than €600 million. While Casalasco's primary business activity concerns private label manufacturing and co-packing, its portfolio also includes iconic Made in Italy brands known for their product excellence, including De Rica, Pomì, Pummarò, as well as brands highly acclaimed abroad such as Pomito and Tomato al Gusto. In addition to tomato, Casalasco has two other integrated supply chains: one for pea and another for basil.

More information about the company is available at [www.casalasco.com](http://www.casalasco.com)

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