

Design Holding

B&B
ITALIA

FLOS

louis
poulsen

DESIGN HOLDING ANNOUNCES APPOINTEMENT OF THE GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF B&B ITALIA

Milan and Copenhagen, 5th of April 2019 – Design Holding is very pleased to announce the appointment of Gabriele Del Torchio to the role of Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective immediately. Gabriele is a veteran executive with extensive record of accomplishments in leading international Groups including Ferretti Group, Sole 24 Ore, Alitalia and Ducati. Gabriele has been a Board Member of B&B Italia since 2015. He will steer the Group together with Piero Gandini, Chairman of Design Holding. Piero Gandini said: "It is a pleasure to have an experienced guy like Gabriele in the team. I am sure his contribution will be precious for Design Holding." Giorgio Busnelli is Vice-Chairman of the Group. The appointment of the Group CEO comes shortly after Alessandro Poletto, former Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Moleskine, joined Design Holding as Group CFO.

At the same time, Armin Broger is resigning as CEO of B&B Italia. Armin has been instrumental in structuring the contract business, creating a retail model for B&B Italia and an operating structure for Arclinea, the company's luxury kitchen brand. We would like to thank him for his contribution to the creation of Design Holding. Gabriele Del Torchio will also additionally take over as CEO of B&B Italia, effective immediately.

In September 2018, Investindustrial and The Carlyle Group announced their intention to create a global high-end interior design group, initially bringing together three complementary companies with strong individual identities and long design heritage: B&B Italia Group in furniture, Flos and Louis Poulsen in lighting. Since then, in line with this vision, a strong central leadership team has been appointed to guarantee coordination and unlock the benefits of larger scale and deeper know-how shared across the combined organizations.

About Design Holding

Design Holding is the largest global high-end design group with a European heritage.

Founded in November 2018 and jointly controlled by the two leading investment firms Investindustrial and The Carlyle Group, Design Holding aims to further grow globally through acquisitions as well. Today the Group brings together a collection of powerful and complementary iconic companies: B&B Italia, Flos, Louis Poulsen and their subsidiaries.

About B&B Italia

B&B Italia (www.bebitalia.com) is the leading Italian high-end design furniture brand, globally recognised for its iconic products and technological innovation. The Company has a unique product portfolio, marketed under the B&B Italia, Maxalto and Azucena brands for furniture and Arclinea for high-end kitchens. Over the years B&B Italia has developed longstanding partnerships with world-renowned designers and architects such as Antonio Citterio, Patricia Urquiola, Naoto Fukasawa, Piero Lissoni, Gaetano Pesce and many others which have positioned the Company at the forefront of creativity, innovation and industrial know-how.

Headquartered in Novedrate (Como) - in a building designed by Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers in 1971, the company has a total of 600 employees and a presence in more than 80 countries through 70 single-brand stores and 1000 specialised stores.

B&B Italia Group operates also in the Contract Division with complex "turnkey" realizations of furnishings and finishes in the hospitality, retail, office and nautical areas.

About Flos

Established in 1962 in Merano, Italy, Flos is recognised as a world leading lighting company, offering high-end design lamps and innovative lighting systems for the residential and architectural sectors. The company has a rich catalogue of iconic products by legendary designers including Achille and Pier Giacomo Castiglioni, Tobia Scarpa, Philippe Starck, Antonio Citterio, Piero Lissoni, Marcel Wanders, Konstantin Grcic, Jasper Morrison, Patricia Urquiola, Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, Michael Anastassiades, Vincent Van Duysen, Nendo, Formafantasma and many more.

Flos has grown significantly over more than fifty years in business, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to research and innovation in lighting, combined with an extraordinary ability to identify new design talents. In June 2015, FLOS acquired Italian architectural outdoor lighting company Ares and the outdoor division became the Group's fourth production unit, alongside the historical design, architectural and custom products sectors.

Flos is today able to offer a complete range of fully integrated lighting solutions. It exports to more than 80 countries worldwide and has single-brand stores in Rome, Milan, Paris, Lyon, New York and Stockholm. The brand's creations have received numerous international awards and many of them are now featured in the permanent collections of leading international art and design museums. www.flos.com

About Louis Poulsen

Founded in 1874, the Danish lighting manufacturer Louis Poulsen creates products that encompass the duality of design and light. Every detail in the design has a purpose. Every design starts and ends with light. Louis Poulsen offers a range of lighting aimed at the commercial and domestic lighting markets, with lights and solutions for both indoor and outdoor applications. In close partnership with designers and architects like Poul Henningsen, Arne Jacobsen, Verner Panton, Øivind Slaatto, Alfred Homann, Oki Sato and GamFratesi, Louis Poulsen has established itself as one of the key suppliers of architectural and decorative lighting and has a global presence with dedicated showrooms in Copenhagen, Stockholm, Miami, Oslo, Los Angeles, Tokyo and Dusseldorf. Additional information is available at www.louispoulsen.com.

Design Holding

B&B
ITALIA

FLOS

louis
poulsen

For further information:

B&B Italia

Silvia Rebuli – Global Communication Director

silvia.rebuli@bebitalia.it

Flos

Donatella Matteoni – PR & Communication Manager

donatella.matteoni@flos.com

Louis Poulsen

Sarah Lærke Stevens – Director, Brand & Communication

sls@louispoulsen.dk

Investindustrial

AD HOC Communication Advisors

Giorgio Zambelletti / Sara Balzarotti

giorgio.zambelletti@ahca.it / sara.balzarotti@ahca.it

+39 02 7606741

The Carlyle Group

Barabino & Partners S.p.A.

Marina Riva

m.riva@barabino.it

+39 02 72 02 35 35