

## PRESS RELEASE

# ANTARES VISION GROUP: AGREEMENT SIGNED IN RUSSIA WITH BAIKALSEA FOR MINERAL WATER TRACEABILITY

Regulatory compliance, efficiency, customized track & trace solution, aimed at preserving the bottle's aesthetics and design.

Travagliato (Brescia), 28 September 2021, Antares Vision Group has supplied BAIKALSEA, one of Russia's largest mineral water producers, with a track & trace solution in compliance with the regulatory requirements of CHESTNY ZNAK, Russia's national digital track and trace hub managed by CRPT, the exclusive operator of the system. Furthermore, the design and aesthetics of the water bottle, distinguishing aspects of flagship products, remain intact.

The experience gained with BAIKALSEA has accredited Antares Vision Group as a technological partner capable of meeting regulatory compliance for traceability in the beverage sector and, at the same time, providing customized solutions for customer's needs.

The track & trace solution was developed and integrated by FT System - an Antares Vision Group company specialized in solutions for the food and beverage industry - for the BAIKAL 430 water line, BAIKALSEA's flagship product.

"We are proud of our track & trace solution that preserves the aesthetics and design of the product - said **Pavel Bulgakov**, **General Director of Antares Vision RUS**. For BAIKALSEA, we have developed a customized solution: the main datamatrix code from the side label is matched with auxiliary code printed on the cap of the bottle with special UV ink, invisible to the naked eye, and visible only with ultraviolet (UV) light. The auxiliary code on the cap associated with the main datamatrix on the side of the bottle is mandatory for aggregation purposes, enabling the packaged serialized product to be traced throughout the entire supply chain. A real achievement considering the fully retained aesthetics of the product and 10 time less operational expences per each bottle compared to the popular alternative, which is application of a sticker with datamartix on the cap of each bottle. The rejection rate achieved is also a reference now for the market - we achieved "unprecedented" low level of rejections".

Antares Vision Group rapidly provided the technological solution and was highly efficient in meeting all of the company's requirements.

BAIKALSEA participated in a pilot project organised by the Russian Government. This phase started on 1 September 2021 with the registration of the participants in the CHESTNY ZNAK system. From 1 December 2021, mineral water traceability will become mandatory and from 1 March 2022 it will be required for all types of drinking water. BAIKALSEA is the first company to have successfully completed the serialization process, thanks to the Antares Vision Group technological support.

"Due to our participation in the experimental stage of bottled water serialization and the active interaction with the technology provider - Maxim Surnin, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of BAIKALSEA commented - our company has been able to implement the application of the unique serial number in the shortest time possible and select companies able to integrate the traceability system in our production lines. Today, around 2 months before the regulatory compliance deadline, we have already completed the preparatory work and we are ready to make products with serial numbers printed in compliance with "CHESTNY ZNAK" requirements three (3) months before the



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regulatory compliance. By printing unique serial numbers, the track and trace system will guarantee consumer health and safety, as well as protecting companies from counterfeiting and from manufacturers who operate in violation of regulations.

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#### **ABOUT ANTARES VISION GROUP**

Listed since April 2019 on the Italian Stock Exchange in the AIM Market, and from 14 May 2021 on Mercato Telematico Azionario (MTA) STAR segment, the Antares Vision Group guarantees protection of products, people and brands through inspection systems for quality control, Track & Trace solutions for anti-counterfeiting and supply chain transparency, smart data management tools for maximized efficiency and digitalization of the supply chain, from raw materials to the final consumer. The Antares Vision Group is active in the pharmaceutical market and in Life Science in general (biomedical devices and hospitals), in beverage, food, cosmetic and in consumer-packaged goods. The Group reaches over 60 countries in the World with complete and flexible solutions, hardware, and software, with related services and counts 7 production facilities in Italy (Brescia, Parma, Piacenza, Latina, Collecchio, Mestrino and Vicenza), 22 foreign subsidiaries (Germany, France [3], USA [7], Latin America [2], United Kingdom, Spain, South Korea, India, Russia, Hong Kong, China, Croatia and Serbia), 3 Innovation and Research Centers (Italy) and a worldwide network of more than 40 partners worldwide. Thanks to the twenty years of experience in vision technologies of the two founding partners, the Antares Vision Group is the supplier of 10 out of 20 leading pharmaceutical companies in the world, with more than 25,000 inspection systems, that ensure everyday product safety and quality, 6,500 quality controls and more than 3,500 serialization modules on lines installed all over the world. With the aim of continuing and supporting the growth and development strategy, during 2019 participation agreements were finalized with T2 Software, a Brazilian company specialized in smart data management solutions, and Orobix, an Italian company leader in artificial intelligence services, as well as the acquisition of 100% of FT System, leader in control and inspection in the beverage sector. In 2020, Antares Vision acquired 82.83% of Tradeticity, a Croatian company specialized in software management of traceability and serialization processes, 100% of Convel, an Italian company specialized in automated inspection machines for the pharmaceutical industry, the assets of Adents High Tech International, a French company specialized in software for serialization and traceability, 100% of Applied Vision, a global leader in inspection systems for glass and metal containers in food & beverage. In March 2021, Antares Vision acquired 100% of rfXcel Corporation, specialized in software solutions for digitalization and supply chain transparency based in the U.S., and 100% of Pen-Tec and Tecnel, through FT System, increasing specialization in Food & Beverage inspection sector. Further information can be found on the website www.antaresvision.com www.antaresvisiongroup.com.



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### For further information

#### **ISSUER**

**ANTARES VISION S.P.A.** 

VIA DEL FERRO, N. 16 25039 – TRAVAGLIATO (BS) ALESSANDRO BAJ BADINO (INVESTOR RELATOR)

TEL.: +39 030 72 83 500

E-MAIL: INVESTORS@ANTARESVISION.COM

# IR Consultant IR TOP CONSULTING

VIA BIGLI, N. 19 20121 – MILANO

TEL.: +39 02 45473884

MARIA ANTONIETTA PIREDDU

E-MAIL: M.PIREDDU@IRTOP.COM

ANTONIO BUOZZI

E-MAIL: A.BUOZZI@IRTOP.COM