



daide groppi

**DAVIDE GROPPi & ITALIAN DESIGN BRANDS (IDB) CREATE “INDACO”,
LIGHTING DESIGN EXCELLENCE HUB**

More leading companies expected to join the project helmed by Davide Groppi. IDB closes its fourth acquisition to a total tune of around Euro 80 million in turnover

Milan, March 6 - Davide Groppi, leading lighting sector designer and founder of Davide Groppi Srl, the company from Piacenza, Italy, that has created, developed and realized design lamps and lighting projects since the 80s, and Italian Design Brands (IDB), the platform uniting leading quality design furnishing companies, together present 'Indaco', an excellence hub for lighting design that marks the beginning of an all-Italian gathering of talent and competence in the lighting sector.

Davide Groppi comments: *“The idea of creating Indaco came from the need to be present in the lighting market in a complete, global and competitive way. The growth that I’ve consolidated in recent years has allowed me to outline a development path for the company to be pursued with great enthusiasm. In 2017, I encountered IDB and realized that time and organizational structuring were two key aspects for further expansion. Sharing a broader lighting project with IDB allows me to continue in this direction. What we’re doing is bringing together a group of diverse and complementary lighting companies in creating an excellence hub with the support of an adequate organizational structure and capital. We want to create narratives and we want to take them to the market”.*

Indaco is created as a company owned by Italian Design Brands, with a significant minority share held by Davide Groppi and small stake held by Paolo Pagani. Through the deal, Indaco acquires the entire capital of Davide Groppi Srl, with founder, chairman and creator of the entrepreneurial success, Davide Groppi, remaining at the helm. With products celebrated the world over, the company has been doubling its figures for years and has an expected turnover of approximately Euro 9 million for 2017.

IDB has chosen the company Davide Groppi Srl, a real excellence of the ‘Made in Italy’ brand, as the first to incorporate in the excellence hub dedicated to lighting design and has entrusted Davide Groppi the leadership of the Indaco project, due to his extraordinary experience and recognized sector quality standards. In numerous years of activity, Davide Groppi has developed countless lighting projects, in particular for environmental and hospitality sectors, as well as for homes, shops, restaurants, museums and a great variety of design companies.

On the one hand, the acquisition allows the IDB Holding to assume the role of leading platform also within the lighting sector, incorporating the highest level proven skills complementary to those acquired to date in the furnishing sector. On the other hand, Davide Groppi benefits from IDB’s managerial and financial structure and its potential of in terms of synergies with the Group’s pool of current and future companies.

Giorgio Gobbi, CEO of IDB, states: *“We are extremely pleased that Davide wanted to face this challenge with us. Indaco is a very fascinating and complex project in a world, that of lighting, which is undergoing very important and rapid changes thanks to new technologies, first and foremost that of LEDs. It is precisely for this reason that we decided to create the dedicated excellence hub Indaco, which, on the one hand, is able to capitalize on the synergies with the other companies of IDB Holding, and, on the other hand, can focus better on the use of innovations which gradually become available in electronics and digital fields, which until now have been of little concern for traditional furniture design. I am sure that no one better than Davide can lead this project, which combines technology, design and, in his words, the ‘poetics of light’”.*

For IDB, which was set up around three years ago by Private Equity Partners S.p.A. -founded and controlled by Fabio Sattin and Giovanni Campolo- Paolo Colonna, brothers Giovanni and Michele Gervasoni and a select group of high-level private investors, Davide Groppi Srl represents IDB’s fourth acquisition since its establishment, after Gervasoni, Meridiani and Cenacchi International. The Group thus brings its consolidated turnover close to around Euro 80 million, thrusting forward in its project to create an Italian focus for high-quality design furnishings, with the aim of propelling itself onto the stock market listings within just a few years.

More information about:

ITALIAN DESIGN BRANDS (IDB)

Italian Design Brands S.p.A. (IDB) was founded in May 2015 in order to develop and promote an Italian high quality Design Furniture District. Private Equity Partners -co-founded by Fabio Sattin and Giovanni Campolo- Paolo Colonna and Gervasoni brothers, supported by a selected Group of high level Private Investors, have launched “Italian Design brands”(IDB), headquartered in Milan, in order to aggregate other leading companies in the sector and unite consistent financial, strategic and relational forces with robust and consolidated industrial and commercial experience. In September 2015, the management team was joined by Giorgio Gobbi, a manager with extensive sector experience who today carries the role of Chief Executive Officer. IDB’s first major investment was the acquisition of Gervasoni S.p.A., a historic Italian brand that, since the end of the 19th century, offered furnishing solutions for the home and contract sectors. Meridiani, founded in 1996 and still led by Renato Crosti, was its second acquisition, an internationally renowned furniture company distinguished by its refined design products and ample textile collection, which continues to be synonymous with timeless quality and elegance. The third acquisition, in 2017, was of Cenacchi International, a well-known high-quality design furniture brand headquartered in Ozzano dell’Emilia, near Bologna, and specializing in the contract sector and, in particular, in the creation of tailor-made furnishings for shops, showrooms, hotels and prestigious homes. Giovanni and Michele Gervasoni, in addition to being actively involved in the management of their company, hold, as minority IDB shareholders, the respective positions of President and CEO of the new Holding. On IDB’s board also sits Giorgio Gobbi, as CEO, Fabio Sattin, Paolo Colonna, Alessandra Stea, representing the private investors, Renato Crosti and Mauro Bodo.

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He began at the end of the 80s in a small laboratory in the centre of Piacenza. Lamps bearing his name can be found all over the world, lighting the tables of the most famous restaurants, works of art in the great museums, then gardens, palaces and private homes. His small laboratory has become a large company, with an area open to the public, called Spazio Esperienze, to keep that contact with people alive daily: designers, but also normal visitors wanting to bring Davide Groppi light into their homes. Seeing how successful it was, the Piacenza Spazio Esperienze was soon joined by the one in Milan, in via Medici and in Bologna in via Dell'Inferno. This success has led to many awards over the years. The Edida award in 2011 for the Sampei lamp; the Design Plus Award in 2014 for the Neuro lamp; the double XXIII ADI Golden Compass Award in 2014 for the lamps Nulla and Sampei and the XXIV ADI Golden Compass Honourable Mention Award in 2016. The ADI Golden Compass award is considered the world's oldest and most prestigious design award.

Projects coming from heart and brain. Intuition surfacing from a certain way of being and thinking. Lamps and light projects where simplicity, airiness, emotion and invention are the fundamental components. Davide Groppi lamps are never just designed as lamps, but are a way of giving shape to a need or meaning. His inspirations often come from art, something ready-made, magic, wanting to do things with hands or simply wanting to play and joke around with light. For Davide Groppi, light is a marvellous way to seduce and excite.

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