

ROCE Capital, a new french boutique asset manager

Experienced asset managers join forces to launch investment firm focusing on maximizing Return On Capital Employed.

Timothée Malphettes, Michael Niedzielski and Matthieu Bordeaux-Groult have partnered to launch **ROCE Capital**, a Paris-based fundamental long-only investment fund focusing principally on European-listed equities.

The firm will be led by CEO Matthieu Bordeaux-Groult, a former equity sales and Partner at **Exane BNP Paribas**. As Chief Executive Bordeaux-Groult will oversee the development and operations of ROCE Capital.

When asked about the name of the new firm, Bordeaux-Groult said they chose ROCE Capital in reference to the **Return On Capital Employed** financial metric, a ratio that, according to him, is 'too often overlooked by investors'. Naturally, the ROCE ratio will be used as a key indicator when screening for investments.

Michael Niedzielski, who originally met Bordeaux-Groult while working at Boston-based **Fidelity Investments** will act as the lead portfolio manager. Niedzielski spent the past 5 years at **T Rowe Price** working closely with the **T Rowe Price International Discovery strategy**.

Timothée Malphettes, long-time friend of Niedzielski, will co-manage the fund. Malphettes has headed the equity management division at **Delubac Asset Management** for the past six years, and previously served as portfolio manager for **Covéa Finance**, in addition to equity manager at **Société Privée de Gestion de Patrimoine**.

In terms of investment strategy, Malphettes and Niedzielski will primarily look to pursue investments within European **small and mid caps**, from €500m to €20bn with a total of 30 to 40 holdings.

Bordeaux-Groult credit's the European Union legislative framework, **MiFID II**, as prime timing for the decision to pursue such an investment strategy. As he explains, "MiFID II has expanded opportunities for alpha-seeking stock-pickers by reducing the coverage of small and mid capitalisations in Europe."

The investment firm **received French AMF approval in April** of this year and will officially launch in September 2020 with at **least €30 million of initial capital**.

