



Fortissimo Capital Fund returns to the printing industry: Invests up to \$8.5 million in Solido, a manufacturer of desktop 3D printers

Fortissimo previously invested in Nur Macroprinters, which it sold to HP. Yuval Cohen, founding and managing partner stated “Solido offers an advanced 3D printing solution and the first of its kind, at a price and quality that is suited for the office environment. 3D printers will become an integral part of product planning and will be standard equipment for every engineer and designer.” In conjunction with the investment, Yuval Rachmilevitz was appointed as the CEO of the company.

Rosh Ha’ayin, August 9, 2010. Fortissimo Capital, managed by Yuval Cohen, announced today that it signed an agreement with respect to an investment of between \$6 million and \$8.5 million in Solido 3D, a developer and manufacturer of the first desktop 3D printers.

Solido was formed in 2000 and during the past year established manufacturing facilities in China that will enable the company to significantly increase its manufacturing capacity. The printers manufactured in China are sold in the US, Europe and Asia.

Yuval Cohen, founding and managing partner of Fortissimo stated: “Solido offers an advanced solution and the first of its kind, at a price and quality that is suited for the office environment. 3D printers will become an integral part of product planning and will be standard equipment for every engineer and designer. We are extremely excited about the potential presented by Solido. The company’s proprietary technology and solution have been proven, now it is all about meticulous execution. We intend to

further improve operations, expand its sales and marketing activities and look forward to significantly enhancing its abilities as the leading manufacturer and provider of 3D desktop printers.”

In conjunction with Fortissimo’s investment, Solido announced the appointment of Yuval Rachmilevitz as the CEO of the company. Rachmilevitz previously served as the CEO of Riverhead Networks (sold to Cisco) and Olive Software.

Solido was established in 2000 and developed the world’s first desktop 3D printer. The company is headquartered in Rosh Ha’ayin, has manufacturing facilities in Nanjing, China and has offices in the U.S., Italy and Shanghai. The company has more than 100 sales representatives and distributors worldwide. Another major shareholder of the company is Argoquest, which is controlled by Jason Barzilay, one of the founders of Packard Bell (sold to NEC). In addition, Robogroup, a distributor of the company’s products is also a shareholder.

Solido's innovative technology enables the quick and automated production of a solid, three-dimensional, plastic model directly from 3D CAD data. Solido uses plastic sheet lamination, to produce rugged yet flexible models made of rigid PVC based plastic. The process does not require chemicals and is environmentally friendly. The accuracy, strength and durability of the parts produced by Solido’s printers make them perfectly suitable for all stages of the design cycle, from concept verification through form, fit and functional testing, including snap-fit. Models can be machined, drilled, finished and painted, and they do not become easily distorted over time.

Solido offers an advanced yet low cost solution compared to its competitors, with respect to the initial cost of the machine, maintenance and consumables. This low cost solution makes 3D printing accessible to virtually every engineer’s workstation and is a much more economical alternative to outsourcing 3D modeling services.

3D modeling is used in various stages of R&D today. According to Gartner, 3D printers are projected to be standard equipment in offices and homes in the near future. Gartner predicts that "by 2011 the number of 3-D printers in homes and businesses will be 100 times greater than it was in 2006. Available technology lets users send a file of a 3-D design to a printer-like device that will carve the design out of a block of resin".

Now that the price of these 3D printers has dropped dramatically, almost any enterprise can afford to buy one, so the net result is that companies are using them more and more," says Pete Basiliere, research director at consulting firm Gartner.

About Fortissimo:

Fortissimo Capital is a private equity fund with more than \$200 million under management that invests in technology and industrial companies in special situations or at a point of inflection that require a capital infusion and strategic guidance. Fortissimo previously sold its portfolio company Nur Macroprinters to Hewlett Packard for \$123 million in cash. Fortissimo's current portfolio includes, SodaStream, AOD, Cadent, Afikim, Telrad, Radview, Emblaze, and Crow. The funds partners include: Yuval Cohen, Eli Blatt, Shmoulik Barashi, Marc Lesnick, Yochai Hacohen and Yoav Hineman. For more information on Fortissimo please see: www.FFCapital.com.