



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For immediate release**

## **Covalia Interactive increases its stock capital and incorporate the company**

*Franche-Comté PME Gestion joins the board of directors*

**Besançon, France May 21<sup>st</sup> 2008** – On May 16th, Covalia Interactive, an innovative company specialized in developing collaborative work solutions for Telehealth, increased its stock capital through a growth capital fund (Franche-comté PME Gestion). Therefore it changes its status and becomes incorporated.

Franche-Comté PME Gestion is investing for the next couple of years through the fund *FRANCHE-COMTE CREATION 2* set up with the Franche-Comté region's support. Franche-Comté PME Gestion becomes one of Covalia Interactive's main share holders.

This new investment will allow Covalia to maintain its R&D programs and its technological edge while starting to develop internationally, especially in North America and South-East Asia. By year 2011, Covalia aims to double its human resources and have around 2 millions euros in sales.

The new board of directors took this opportunity to meet at Covalia Interactive's headquarters in Besançon. The members are: M. Eric Garcia – Founder and CEO of Covalia Interactive Inc., M. Patrick Blasselle – General manager of Franche-Comté PME Gestion -, M. Laurent Py, Founder and CEO of LEIRIOS -, M. Jean-Christophe Lapayre – Director of the University of Franche-Comté Computer Science Laboratory.



### **About Covalia Interactive Inc.**

Covalia Interactive Inc. is located in Besançon, France and develops and commercializes collaborative work solutions aimed at responding to the specific needs of Telehealth.

Covalia offers a complete range of products from secured data transfers software to a complete collaborative work platform in the medical field.

Covotem™, Covalia's main product, enables you to prepare and exchange files, documents, while organizing on-line meetings and obtain reports through a simple tool thanks to its multiple functions.

It is already used by many practitioners in some of France General Hospitals.

For more information, please visit our web site at [www.covalia.com](http://www.covalia.com).

### **About Franche-Comté PME Gestion**

Franche-Comté PME Gestion is a subsidiary company of SIPAREX Group, one of France's foremost independent private equity investment groups - and the leading independent group operating in the middle market sector.

Franche-Comté PME Gestion, 51% indirectly owned by Sigefi along with Capital Investissement Franche-Comté, a holding company primarily for investors from the Franche-Comté region and CDC PME.

### **About LEIRIOS**

Founded in 2003, LEIRIOS designed and developed software for automated test generation and was designated as "Company of the Future" in Ernst & Young's 2006 Entrepreneur Grand Prix for eastern French regions. LEIRIOS employs 30 people between Paris, Amsterdam, Munich, Bangalore and Besançon, where its head office and R&D departments are located. LEIRIOS has successfully raised more than 4 millions euros since 2004.

### **About University of Franche-Comté Computer Science Laboratory (LIFC)**

Franche-Comté Computer Sciences Laboratory's research is focused more specifically on networks, distributed systems, verification and validation at the French and European levels. The LIFC is an important asset for the region considering the number and the quality of its researchers, its research results as well as its different industrial partnerships. Covalia Interactive is a spin-off from the University of Franche-Comté Computer Science.

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### **Contacts:**

Delphine Krieger  
Director of Marketing and Business Development  
Covalia Interactive  
Tel: +33 (0)3 81 83 21 73  
[Delphine.krieger@covalia.com](mailto:Delphine.krieger@covalia.com)