Alentia invests 450,000 euros in Arbórea

The Salamanca company, which develops drones, will create between 5 and 10 jobs

10 investors associated with <u>Alentia</u> <u>Capital Alternativo</u> have made an investment of 450,000 in <u>Arbórea</u>, which will allow the Salamanca company to boost its business plan in the coming years.

In the group of investors are prominent industrialists of Castilla y León, along with other partners with financial profile. The contributions made range between a **minimum of 5,000 euros and a maximum of 100,000 euros.**



From left to right, Javier Cid, manager of Alentia Capital Alternativo, and Carlos Bernabéu, founder of Arbórea.

Capital increase

The capital increase will allow the company to grow in the coming years and it will result in the creation of between 5 and 10 jobs with a high degree of qualification, mainly engineers.

The investors involved have valued the great potential of the Arbórea project in the **inspection of all types of industrial infrastructures**, such as wind turbines, thermal power plants and water pipes, among others. Likewise, the entrepreneurial nature of its promoter, Carlos Bernabéu, has been one of the determining elements in the decision making by investors.

In the grouping of interested investors, Alentia has structured the constitution of a vehicle company for this purpose. Its creation brings a series of advantages to these operations, since the participants are grouped together to accommodate both large and small capitals, negotiating strength is gained against other parties and allows individual investors to benefit from tax deductions in IRPF matter launched by the Board in 2013 that Alentia investors are taking advantage of.

Drones

Arbórea is a company based in the Scientific Park of the <u>University of Salamanca</u> founded by Carlos Bernabéu.

The company has developed a remotely manned aerial system (SARP), popularly known as a **drone**, which allows height inspections to be carried out in a wide range of activity sectors such as industrial infrastructure, agriculture and aerial photography, among others.

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<u>Iberdrola</u> and the Center for Industrial Technological Development (<u>CDTI</u>), have participated in the capital of this company since 2014, which promoted the initial launch of the company. Once the company has started marketing its products and services, new investment partners have been sought to underpin the company's future growth.

Arbórea is one of the companies that emerged from ADE 2020, the project accelerator of the ADE of the <u>Junta de Castilla y León</u>, and in 2014 it was one of the finalist companies of the XXI Entrepreneur Award promoted by <u>La Caixa</u>.

Investors

Alentia arose from the situation of lack of credit to companies that motivated a series of entrepreneurs linked to Empresa Familiar de Castilla y León (<u>EFCL</u>) to raise the need to find other ways to channel the flows between productive companies and savers, complementary to the traditional banking intermediation.

At present, a total of 130 partners are part of Alentia, with an investment capacity of around **13 million euros**. Of these, 35 are immersed in different investment processes, representing almost a third of the total number of investors.

Alentia investors include both large industrial entrepreneurs from all over Spain, as well as small investors with a more limited capacity, but all of them interested in investing in real economy projects in the environment as a way to diversify wealth while supporting the creation of wealth and employment.

6 financial institutions such as <u>Banco Santander</u>, <u>Banco Popular</u>, <u>CaixaBank</u>, <u>EspañaDuero</u>, <u>Sodical</u> and <u>Iberaval</u> are also part of Alentia.

The first investment in which Alentia partners participated was the start-up of the Valbuena de Duero Spa (Valladolid) of <u>Castilla Termal Hoteles</u>, in which a group of investors combined a capital of 1.2 million euros, which will be translated in the creation of 70 jobs in the Ribera del Duero.

Alentia's forecast for this year is to reach a number of investors close to 130, with an investment capacity of 13 million euros, which will make it the largest investment network in Spain.

Link to original (Castilla y León Económica, Spanish)