

Zurich, 8 April 2010

## **New Value sells investment in Meyer Burger/3S Industries – focuses on Cleantech and Health**

**Preliminary net profit for the year of CHF 5.5 million – par value repayment and new payout policy**

Listed Investment Company New Value (SIX:NEWN) has sold its investment in Meyer Burger Technologies/3S Industries effective the end of March 2010. Through the merger of these two solar industry pioneers, a powerful business partnership was created. New Value thus considered its many years of work in helping develop 3S Industries and its role as a growth financier complete. The successful exit is also reflected in New Value's year-end results. As of the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, New Value posted preliminary profits of approximately CHF 5.5 million. It is planned to share part of the profits with investors through a par value repayment. Net Asset Value rose +11.7% over the previous year to CHF 24.30 per share (unaudited). New Value seeks to further focus its investment portfolio on the Cleantech and Health sectors. Its considerable liquid assets will be primarily invested in young growth firms. New ventures are currently under evaluation.

The shares of Meyer Burger/3S Industries, New Value's most important investment so far, were sold on the stock market at favorable prices. Market demand for Meyer Burger securities was very high, allowing the entire position to be sold without pressure on the share price.

New Value helped drive the development of 3S Industries with growth capital and management guidance since its founding in 2001. As an active investor, New Value supported the 3S management team in gradually internationalizing the company and structuring its activities, particularly through concentration on photovoltaics and mechanical engineering. For New Value, 3S Industries' IPO was not a short-term exit opportunity but rather an important step in the company's medium-term development. As a key investor, New Value supported the further growth of the company, specifically in its acquisition of module tester Pasan SA and string soldering systems manufacturer Somont GmbH, as well as its merger with Meyer Burger. New Value's exit at this time is in line with its investment strategy.

### **Ordinary and special payout through par value repayment**

The substantial capital gains from the sale of 3S Industries shares had a positive effect on 2009/2010 year-end results (as of March 31, 2010). Preliminary profits for 2009/10 total CHF 5.5 million (previous year: CHF -13.9 million). Net Asset Value rose accordingly from CHF 21.76 at the end of March 2009 to CHF 24.30 per share unaudited (+11.7%). Liquid and financial assets amount to approximately CHF 30 million.

The new earnings will be used primarily for investments in growth companies. In addition, New Value will introduce an active payout policy to replace its previous practice of reinvesting all profits. This will aid in preserving and furthering the company's development. At the general assembly of shareholders on July 8, 2010, the Board of Directors will recommend a payout in the form of a par value repayment in conjunction with the 3S exit, consisting of an ordinary and a special part of CHF 0.80 each, equalling CHF 1.60 in total. The Board of Directors will adjust the company's Investment Policy on time to reflect the change.

## Press Release

“We are proud to have supported the development of an exemplary firm like 3S Industries over several years, from its first inception through its resounding market success, including its recent merger with Meyer Burger,” says Rolf Wägli, President of New Value’s Board of Directors. “As an investment firm specialized in venture capital, the time has come for New Value to divest. We increased the value of the original Private Equity investment by a factor of more than 10 and gained significant knowledge in the renewable energies industry, which we will continue to use to the benefit of our shareholders,” explains Wägli.

### Focus on Cleantech and Health

New Value will build on its broad, 10-year experience while keeping important core elements of its previous investment strategy in place. As a growth capital financier in Switzerland and the German-speaking region, New Value is committed to helping sustainable business concepts succeed through active management support and transfer of expertise. In the past few weeks, New Value took part in additional fundraising initiatives by two of its portfolio companies, Silentsoft and Swiss Medical Solution.

“We firmly believe in Switzerland as a lucrative technology center for venture capital investors,” says Peter Letter, Head of Investment Management. “The cleantech and health industries, two of this century’s economic and social megatrends, offer particularly excellent investment opportunities at reasonable prices. We have been active in both these areas for many years and have the necessary expertise and network. We are currently in intense discussion with several growth firms, and we expect to make new investments in the coming months,” says Letter.

### Information about New Value AG

New Value, officially listed at the SIX Swiss Exchange, invests directly in promising private companies in Switzerland and neighbouring countries with above-average market and growth potential. As an investment company, New Value promotes innovative business models with venture capital and accompanies those to market success. The portfolio covers companies of different stages of development, starting with the market introduction phase up to medium-sized enterprises with stable profits. A broad investment approach is deliberately followed regarding industry sectors. The portfolio contains companies active in renewable energy, medical technology, health, information technology and new materials. New Value assigns great value to ethical business concepts and good corporate governance while selecting their portfolio companies. Criteria such as meaningfulness, social responsibility and ecological sustainability are considered by New Value as decisive competitive advantages, which affect and enhance the quality of products and services offered and thus, facilitate an above average increase of value potential. Since the formation of New Value, EPS Value Plus AG, Zurich, has served as investment manager.

<b>Listing</b>	SIX Swiss Exchange ( <a href="http://www.six-swiss-exchange.com">www.six-swiss-exchange.com</a> )	
	Xetra, Open Market Frankfurt, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Stuttgart and Munich	
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