

Exeo Capital acquires Vital Health Foods

Pan-African alternative investment firm, Exeo Capital has announced its acquisition of the Vital Health food group through Nurture Brands (Pty) Ltd, the functional and convenience foods platform in Exeo Capital's Agri-Vie Fund II.



Source: [Pexels](#)

The transaction was led by Riël Malan, Exeo partner and executive chairman of Nurture Brands.

As he comments: “Collectively, the acquisition of the Vital Group will put Nurture Brands on the fast track to becoming one of South Africa’s most ubiquitous branded consumer goods groups in the functional and convenience food sectors.

“As a household name in South Africa, the Vital brand has garnered national recognition and consumer confidence over the past 75 years, during which it has made a significant contribution to the development of the FMCG and consumer-health landscape. We believe that this acquisition will propel it along this positive trajectory.

“We are also excited by the prospect of working with a team of such a high calibre to fulfil the broader growth strategy for Nurture Brands.”

Vital is South Africa’s oldest manufacturer and distributor of vitamins, minerals and supplements (VMS), with its iconic flagship brand bearing the same name. In its accomplished 75-year-old history, the company has become a trusted name in the sector and a part of the healthcare regimes of millions of South African families.

The Vital Group also has two wholly owned subsidiaries, Wassen and ProMeal. Wassen supplies the UK and European markets with a scientifically formulated range of specialised VMS products. Prommeal is a leading companion animal nutrition company supplying a range of pet food products to South African retailers.

Greg Heron, chief executive officer of the seller, Infinitus Holdings and outgoing chief executive officer of the Vital group commented: “Nurture Brands is a natural fit for Vital and its team. We believe both the business and the team have found a great home in Nurture Brands.”

A force to be reckoned with

He explains that “Vital is backed by decades of experience and an acute understanding of the needs and lifestyle demands of South African consumers. Our team, therefore, brings a high level of insight to Nurture Brands. We look forward to working together to achieve our collective business objectives and realise the tremendous potential that this transaction creates across all sectors in which the enlarged group operates.”

Exeo Capital has a 15-year track record of investing in food and related businesses in sub-Saharan Africa. Nurture Brands was established in 2021 as a platform with a longer-term focus to build a group of branded, functional and convenience food businesses in high-growth sectors.

In addition to its first acquisition, Fairview Cheese, Vital Health Foods provides an expanded platform from where Nurture Brands will further scale its specialised health food offering to the African and international markets.

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