

## **PRESS RELEASE**

13 November 2017

### **EcoMachines Ventures announces the launch of EMV EIS FUND I**

**Fund focused on industrial high-tech, energy, smart cities and resource efficiency investment opportunities in the UK**

**LONDON, UK, November 2017 - EcoMachines Ventures (EMV), the specialist investor in energy and industrial high-tech companies, announces the launch of the EMV EIS Fund I. The Fund will be focused on investments into EIS-eligible companies disrupting the energy, industrial high-tech, resource efficiency and transport sectors, and is targeting a close of up to £10m by March 2018. EMV is acting as exclusive investment advisor to the Fund, bringing its established expertise and analytical framework within high-growth technology sectors. Further details are available at <http://ecomachinesventures.com/emv-eis-fund>.**

The EMV EIS Fund I is targeted at IFAs, wealth managers and professional investors seeking access to EIS investment growth opportunities in ambitious UK companies looking to scale up, internationalise and partner with global corporations. The focus is on investments in sectors where there are significant opportunities for the adoption of new technologies, such as in robotics, artificial intelligence, and industrial IoT.

The Fund is managed by Sapphire Capital Partners LLP, an award-winning specialist investment fund manager which focuses on EIS and SEIS solutions, with EcoMachines Ventures acting as exclusive investment advisor. The Fund's custodian is Mainspring Nominees Limited, an award-winning custodian which focuses on UK EIS and other funds with more than £1bn under custody.

**Stephen Geddes, Managing Director of Mainspring Nominees, said:** "We are thrilled to be working with EcoMachines on their EMV EIS Fund I and are excited by the opportunity to be involved with such an innovative new EIS offering. We have built a strong relationship with the team in the run up to the launch and look forward to supporting EcoMachines Ventures as they grow. "

**A Hardman & Co research report** found that the EMV team “brings experience of both building new businesses and venture capital investing. The track record of EMV shows an ability to raise and deploy capital... [and] an ability to work with/alongside large corporates which could supply additional technology validation, support or finance options”.<sup>1</sup>

**Dr. Ilian Iliev, MD of EcoMachines Ventures commented:** “We expect the EMV EIS Fund I will provide EIS investors with the opportunity to invest in some of the UK’s most ambitious B2B companies with industry-leading technologies and the potential to become international leaders in their market segment, and who can demonstrate traction with major global corporations as a way of accelerating growth and obtaining routes to market. We will leverage our expertise, international investor base, and relationships with some of the leading global corporations to the benefit of the fund, and its future investments.”

**Boyd Carson, Managing Partner of Sapphire Capital Partners LLP, said:** “We are delighted to partner with the EcoMachines Ventures team. As a firm specialising in the B2B space, EMV brings depth of experience and capability to the EIS space that we expect will position the EMV EIS Fund I as a unique growth investment opportunity in the EIS investment landscape.”

The Fund is targeted at the 2018/2019 tax year, with a close date expected in March 2018. Interested parties can find out more about EMV EIS Fund I on <http://ecomachinesventures.com/emv-eis-fund>.

Investment into the Fund may not be suitable for all Investors. Investors should be aware that investing in private companies carries with it a high degree of inherent risk. EcoMachines Ventures does not provide investment, taxation, legal or other advice and potential investors should consult the Information Memorandum provided by the Manager and seek advice from an independent source before investing.

-ENDS-

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<sup>1</sup> <http://ecomachinesventures.com/sites/default/files/EMV-EIS-Fund-Hardman-Report-1017.pdf>

For additional images, commentary or interview requests, please email [marketing@ecomachinesventures.com](mailto:marketing@ecomachinesventures.com).

### **About the EMV EIS Fund I**

The EMV EIS Fund I is an EIS fund that will invest in industrial high-tech, energy, robotics, IoT and resource efficiency, to provide attractive tax relief for investors. The Fund is seeking to raise up to £10 million for a six to eight-year fund with targeted returns of three times the initial investment. Investments into investee Companies will typically range from £200,000 to £1,000,000. All investee companies will have obtained EIS advance assurance from HMRC prior to investing. To find out more about the fund and request an IM please visit [www.ecomachinesventures.com/emv-eis-fund](http://www.ecomachinesventures.com/emv-eis-fund).

### **About EcoMachines Ventures ([www.ecomachinesventures.com](http://www.ecomachinesventures.com))**

EcoMachines Ventures (EMV) is a London-based investor focused on B2B companies in the industrial high-tech, energy, resource efficiency/circular economy, smart cities and transportation sectors. EMV invests in, and provides advisory services related to, investments that involve a range of technologies including robotics and AI, materials science, IoT, advanced engineering and power electronics. EMV has invested alongside some of the world's leading corporations, including ABB, Philips Lighting, Evonik Industries and Flex. Founded by Dr. Ilian Iliev in 2013, EMV has a unique multidisciplinary team with expertise in investment, deep industry, corporate finance and M&A. EcoMachines Ventures Limited is an appointed representative of Capital Deposit Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

### **About Sapphire Capital Partners LLP ([www.sapphirecapitalpartners.co.uk](http://www.sapphirecapitalpartners.co.uk))**

Sapphire Capital Partners LLP is an award-winning firm that specialises in tax efficient schemes (such as SEIS and EIS) to grow companies and investment funds. The firm assists clients in achieving SEIS, EIS and SISR HMRC assurance, raise funds and act as an FCA approved investment manager to numerous SEIS and EIS funds.

### **About Hardman & Co (<http://hardmanandco.com>)**

Founded over 20 years ago, Hardman & Co provides research, analysis, valuation and advisory services to public and private companies. At the suggestion of the EIS Association, Hardman & Co expanded into the tax enhanced market, undertaking reviews to enable advisers to select products for their clients with confidence. The sector expertise of the Hardman & Co research team of over 15 analysts enables them to

offer a unique insight into specialist markets. Hardman& Co have developed a service to include education for advisers on tax enhanced products and the production of product panels that are geared to the client profile of advisory firms.

Hardman & Co's research report on EMV EIS Fund I can be found at

<http://ecomachinesventures.com/sites/default/files/EMV-EIS-Fund-Hardman-Report-1017.pdf>

**About Mainspring Nominees Ltd (<https://mainspringfs.com>)**

Mainspring provides dependable, high quality fund services to EIS funds and small to medium sized private equity and venture capital managers in the UK. Mainspring is regulated to provide nominee and custodian services for EIS fund managers, and authorised to handle the cash and assets of EIS fund investors. Mainspring's service is designed to grow with their client's offering and adapt to their evolving requirements. Mainspring takes care of the time-consuming administrative components of fund management and fit in with their client's schedule to allow them to focus on their own growth. Mainspring's administration infrastructure is built upon industry standard software which is a proven tool for managing and recording business and accounting transactions of funds and enables them to provide their clients and their investors with accurate, timely and well-presented information.