



Press release
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Docaposte enters into exclusive negotiations with clinical research company Axonal-Biostatem with a view to acquiring it



Docaposte, the digital subsidiary of La Poste Group, has entered into exclusive negotiations with Axonal-Biostatem, a French clinical research organisation, with a view to its acquisition. Through this planned merger, Docaposte is pursuing its development strategy in the healthcare market, with the aim of creating a leading centre in France and Europe for the management of healthcare data and clinical research, within a sovereign framework.

Axonal-Biostatem has been supporting its clients for over 30 years in the design, implementation and analysis of their clinical research projects: the clinical development phases of medicines, early access treatment programmes, clinical investigations for CE marking and reimbursement of medical devices, post-registration studies, pharmaco-epidemiological studies, surveys and observatories. Thanks to its medical and scientific expertise, and its ability to adapt to the specific requirements of each project, Axonal-Biostatem is one of the top 3 independent CROs (Clinical Research Organisations) on the French market. A company on a human scale, Axonal-Biostatem covers all aspects of clinical and epidemiological research in-house. The company employs 44 people and generated sales of €6.1m in 2022.

The merger between Docaposte and Axonal-Biostatem is based on a shared vision: the strategic use of data as a keystone in the transformation of the healthcare system. Docaposte and Axonal-Biostatem are convinced that the future of our healthcare systems depends on better use of health data for optimisation, innovation, research and prevention, and have decided to join forces with the aim of creating an independent French leader in clinical research, based on their expertise.

Docaposte's healthcare strategy is to support its clients across the entire health data value chain, one of the objectives being to accelerate the use of health data for clinical research.

With the arrival of the Axonal-Biostatem CRO, whose expertise extends to all therapeutic areas and all types of studies using primary data collection, Docaposte, a trusted third party in healthcare data, is continuing to create a French "Clinical Research & Data" centre, which will cover the entire value chain of the clinical studies market to support manufacturers in their development.

Already involved in market access for healthcare products and real-life assessment using databases such as the National Health Data System (SNDS) through its subsidiary HEVA, Docaposte will now be involved in trials during the first phases of the development of a drug or medical device with Axonal-Biostatem but also in real-world studies from primary data (data collected in the field).

"The merger with Axonal-Biostatem strengthens our expertise in healthcare data and fully confirms Docaposte's ambition to be the benchmark partner for healthcare professionals in their data strategy: a partner that guarantees a compliant, secure, sovereign and ethical framework for the entire healthcare data processing chain," explains **Olivier Vallet**, Chairman and CEO of Docaposte.

"For more than 30 years, health data has been at the heart of our concerns. The link-up with Docaposte is a natural extension of this data culture, in line with one of our missions: to enable medical research professionals to obtain reliable, unbiased data on pathologies, treatments and medical devices," adds **Denis Comet**, Chairman and CEO of Axonal-Biostatem.

About Axonal-Biostatem :

- 44 employees
- Sales of €6.1 m in 2022
- Over 30 years' experience in the CRO industry
- More than 1,000 projects completed since the company was launched
- 2 sites in France : Nanterre and Vendargues

About Docaposte :

A leader in digital trust in France and a subsidiary of La Poste Group, Docaposte supports all companies and public institutions in their transformation, enabling them to accelerate it with confidence. As an expert in the processing of sensitive data and a trusted third party, Docaposte enjoys a unique position in the market, enabling it to provide an end-to-end response to a customer's needs, in compliance with regulations and with the assurance of highly secure data. A leader in trusted digital solutions (e-voting, e-registered mail, e-signature, digital archiving) and France's leading health data operator with over 45 million medical records, Docaposte brings its expertise to the design and management of customised digital platforms. Its industrial know-how and delegated management enable it to meet all its customers' needs. Docaposte has more than 40,000 corporate and public sector customers and 7,500 employees at nearly 86 sites in France and abroad. Docaposte generated sales of €826 million in 2022. For more information, visit www.docaposte.com

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