

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

23 February 2017

### **IFM Investors invests in leading fashion handbag and accessories retailer Colette by Colette Hayman**

IFM Investors' private equity arm has made a significant minority investment in Colette by Colette Hayman, a leading fashion handbags and accessories retailer.

Announcing the investment, IFM Investors Executive Director Stuart Wardman-Browne said that IFM's partnership with the Company's founders and senior management would help the business continue its growth path.

"We are excited to partner with Colette as it seeks to further expand in Australia and offshore. With the strong experience of its leadership team, niche value proposition, on-trend products and proven retail nous, we believe Colette is well positioned to execute on its next phase of growth."

Colette was founded in 2010 by Mark and Colette Hayman and has grown quickly to a network of over 130 company owned stores across Australia and New Zealand. It also has several franchise locations across South Africa and the Middle East.

Mark Hayman, Colette by Colette Hayman Chief Executive Officer commented that "the partnership with IFM represents an exciting development for us as we embark on our next phase of growth in Australasia and internationally. We look forward to working closely with IFM to realise our vision for the Colette by Colette Hayman brand."

IFM Investors has a well-established presence in private equity and provides institutional investors with a flexible and transparent platform to access private equity investments. Its private equity model benefits investee companies through an openness to taking minority or majority stakes, flexible investment horizons, and the ability to continue committing follow-on capital as required for growth.

"This transaction is a perfect example of how our private equity approach can benefit companies through long-term investment coupled with a partnership style approach including pro-active support on strategic initiatives to help the continued growth of the business. It also benefits our investors as they have greater involvement in, and transparency of, their private equity investment," added Wardman-Browne.

IFM Investors' private equity team seeks to invest in growing businesses in Australia and New Zealand with a value of between \$50-300 million. This transaction follows the acquisition of 50% of leading contractor group ISGM in June.

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### **About IFM Investors**

IFM Investors is an investor-owned global fund manager with A\$75 billion under management. Established over 20 years ago and owned by 28 Australian not-for-profit superannuation funds, IFM Investors' interests are deeply aligned with those of its investors. Investment teams in Australia, North America and Europe manage institutional strategies across infrastructure, debt investments, listed equities and private capital. IFM Investors is committed to the United Nations supported Principles for Responsible Investment and has been a signatory since 2008. IFM Investors has offices in seven locations: Melbourne, Sydney, New York, London, Berlin, Tokyo and Hong Kong. All data is at 30 June 2016. For more information visit [www.ifminvestors.com](http://www.ifminvestors.com)

### **About Colette by Colette Hayman**

Colette by Colette Hayman is a fashion handbag and accessories retailer, with its core offering being on-trend high quality designer inspired fashion handbags and accessories with a superior value proposition. Colette launched its first store in Sydney in March 2010 and is now one of Australia's leading fashion accessories retailers with 167 store locations throughout Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and the Middle East.

Miles Advisory Partners acted as financial advisers to Colette by Colette Hayman on the transaction.