

Press Release

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## Univers Drink partners with Akiles to accelerate international growth

**Brussels, June 5, 2026** – Akiles, the Belgian evergreen investment fund specializing in growth capital and owner buyouts for SMEs, today announced its investment in Univers Drink, alongside founder and CEO Arnaud Jacquemin

Founded in 2009 by Arnaud Jacquemin, Univers Drink is a leading Belgian company in the development and commercialization of festive, elegant, and innovative non-alcoholic beverages. Over the years, the company has established itself as a leading player in the market for alcohol-free alternatives, offering a broad and distinctive range of products that reflects evolving consumer preferences.

Today, Univers Drink offers a portfolio of more than 40 products, including non-alcoholic wines, mocktails, spirits, beers, and juices. These products are marketed under three flagship brands - Night Orient, Vendôme Mademoiselle, and Vina'0° - each with its own unique and complementary positioning.



Univers Drink operates across major distribution channels, serving large-scale retail, hospitality, export markets, and e-commerce. Its products are currently available in approximately 50 countries across and beyond Europe, supported by long-term relationships with numerous customers and commercial partners.

Akiles' investment is primarily aimed at supporting the next phase of Univers Drink's growth, with a particular focus on international expansion. Together with Arnaud Jacquemin and his team, Akiles intends to strengthen brand awareness, expand distribution networks, and support the implementation of a more ambitious growth strategy.

« Univers Drink has built a remarkable position in a fast-growing market, driven by changing lifestyles and increasing demand for high-quality alcohol-free alternatives. Arnaud and his team have developed strong brands, built a comprehensive product portfolio, and already achieved international growth. We are delighted to support them in this new phase, with the ambition of accelerating Univers Drink's growth beyond its traditional core markets » said **Christophe Rousseaux**, Managing Partner of Akiles.

« Since founding Univers Drink, our ambition has always been to offer alcohol-free beverages that enable festive, elegant, and memorable moments without compromising on taste. The arrival of Akiles marks an important next step in our development. Their entrepreneurial approach, long-term investment horizon, and experience in supporting growing SMEs make them the ideal partner to accelerate our international expansion while preserving the identity of our brands » added **Arnaud Jacquemin**, Founder and CEO of Univers Drink.



The non-alcoholic beverage market is benefiting from favorable structural trends, driven by the rise of “mindful drinking,” growing attention to health and wellness, and the search for more sophisticated alternatives to traditional alcoholic beverages. With its recognized brands, broad product portfolio, and multi-channel presence, Univers Drink is ideally positioned to meet these evolving consumer expectations.

## Univers Drink

- Founded by Arnaud Jacquemin in 2009
- Leading Belgian player in the premium non-alcoholic beverages market
- Portfolio of more than 40 products
- 3 flagship brands: Night Orient, Vendôme Mademoiselle, and Vina’0°
- Active across retail, horeca, e-commerce, and export channels
- Products distributed in 50 countries
- Night Orient was voted “Brand of the Year” by Belgian consumers in 2025

### About Univers Drink

Univers Drink, founded in 2009 by Arnaud Jacquemin, develops and commercializes festive and innovative non-alcoholic beverages. The company offers a portfolio of more than 40 products under the Night Orient, Vendôme Mademoiselle, and Vina’0° brands, including non-alcoholized wines, mocktails, non-alcoholic spirits, beers, and juices. Through retail, hospitality, e-commerce, and export channels, Univers Drink distributes its products in approximately 50 countries.

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### About Akiles

Akiles is a Belgian evergreen investment company founded in 2019 by Christophe Rousseaux with the support of several investment professionals. Drawing on his experience as founder and CEO of Immoweb, Christophe established Akiles to support business leaders and entrepreneurs over the long term in growing their companies.

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