

FOX PAINE TO SELL VCST TO ALPHA

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Fox Paine & Co. LLC has agreed to sell Belgian auto-parts maker VCST Industrial Products NV to French buyout shop Alpha Associés Conseil for an undisclosed sum. A press official for Alpha said the deal is not completed and declined further comment. Fox Paine bought 83% of VCST in October 2004. Navas Investments BV, a firm controlled by former company official Jeroen van den Nieuwenhuyzen, owns 17% of VCST. Saint Truiden, Belgium-based VCST posted a 2004 operating profit of €18.46 million (\$21.5 million).



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