

Israel-Chinese fund acquires Israeli cutting tools co Lamina

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Catalyst CEL will invest \$42 million in Lamina Technologies.

Catalyst CEL, an Israeli-Chinese investment fund, will invest \$42 million in Israeli company Lamina Technologies. The investment includes \$10 million for expanding the company's global business and \$32 million for the company's current shareholders. Following the deal, Catalyst CEL will become the controlling shareholder in Lamina in cooperation with Lamina's current management team, headed by company founders and entrepreneurs brothers Yuval and Amir Peleg. The Pelegs will remain in management positions in Lamina, and will now be its largest shareholders after the fund. Lamina chairman Luc Muller is CEO of the Otto group, the first entity to invest in Lamina.

Lamina was founded in 2001. It develops and manufactures technologies for cutting tools used in circuit processing. The company's customers include metal and machinery manufacturers. "Lamina established a first plant in Switzerland, and achieved maximum production," says Catalyst managing partner Edouard Cukierman. "The biggest market Lamina sells in is China, and the money raised will be used to establish another plant in the country."

Lamina CEO Amir Peleg says, "The company has many growth opportunities. With the capital investment from Catalyst CEL, combined with its powerful connections in China and in global marketing, Lamina is in a good position to move into its next growth stages."

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