

SOFICO strengthens leadership for next phase of global growth with appointment of new CEO and CTO

Ghent, Belgium – September 1, 2025 – SOFICO, the leading global provider of software solutions for automotive finance, leasing, fleet, and mobility management, today announced the appointment of Wim De Bruyne as Chief Executive Officer and Clive Brett as Chief Technology Officer, marking an important milestone in the company's long-term succession and growth strategy.

This leadership transition has been carefully prepared over several years under the guidance of CEO Gémar Hompes and CTO/co-founder Piet Maes. It is part of a broader strategy to strengthen SOFICO's leadership and position the company for its next phase of international expansion. As of today, Gémar and Piet are stepping back from their operational roles, while remaining significant investors in the business and continuing to play an active role on the Board of Directors, where they will provide strategic guidance.

The succession plan was initiated more than four years ago, when SOFICO welcomed private equity investor Apheon, followed more recently by Astorg as majority shareholder. Over this period, the company has expanded its executive team in line with rapid global growth, including the appointments of Michael Deroost as Chief Commercial Officer in 2022 and Steffen Tallieu as Chief Product Officer in 2023. These steps have created a strong platform for scaling SOFICO software solutions worldwide.

"This change is the result of a structured and forward-looking plan," said **Charles-Hubert Le Baron**, Partner and Head of Tech & Software Mid-Cap, and **Nathan Geerinck**, Managing Director at Astorg. "Under Gémar and Piet's leadership, SOFICO has evolved from a Belgian pioneer into a global leader, serving customers in more than 40 countries. The appointment of Wim and Clive ensures the company has the leadership strength to accelerate growth, deepen customer relationships, and expand its global footprint."

Wim De Bruyne, formerly with Montagu Private Equity and Barco, brings extensive international experience in scaling tech companies, leading global teams, and delivering customer-centric innovation. His appointment signals the next phase in SOFICO's growth journey, building on strong foundations to accelerate international expansion, double down on platform innovation, and deepen customer relationships worldwide.



Since co-founding SOFICO in 1988, Piet Maes has been the visionary behind the company's product concept and value proposition, shaping SOFICO's Miles Enterprise platform into an industry benchmark. In his new role, Clive Brett will assume the operational leadership of SOFICO's technology organization, with a focus on scaling delivery, advancing the cloud and AI roadmap, and enhancing technical capabilities for customers worldwide. Product leadership will remain under **Steffen Tallieu** as Chief Product Officer, ensuring continuity of SOFICO's innovation agenda.

"This is the right moment for Piet and me to take on a different role," said **Gémar Hompes**. "We are proud of what we've achieved together — growing from a small Belgian team to a global firm. We are glad to welcome Wim and Clive, and we have full confidence in the leadership team to guide SOFICO into its next chapter of growth."

"I am honored to join SOFICO at such a pivotal moment," said **Wim De Bruyne**. "SOFICO's strong reputation, trusted customer relationships, and the expertise and passion of its people provide a unique foundation. Together with the leadership and our talented employees worldwide, we will build on this strength to continue to scale SOFICO globally, accelerate innovation, and deliver outstanding value to our clients."

SOFICO leadership team

Today's announcement completes a leadership team that blends long-standing SOFICO expertise with fresh perspectives across all core functions:

- Wim De Bruyne Chief Executive Officer
- Clive Brett Chief Technology Officer
- Steffen Tallieu Chief Product Officer
- Michael Deroost Chief Commercial Officer
- Tim Van Daele Chief People Officer
- Sander Hindryckx Chief Operations Officer EMEA-South
- Walter Maes Chief Operations Officer EMEA-North
- Annelies Den Haese Chief Financial Officer
- Koenraad Van Grimbergen Chief Operations Officer APAC & AMER



About SOFICO

SOFICO is the leading global provider of software solutions for automotive finance, leasing, fleet, and mobility management. Founded in 1988, the company serves customers in over 40 countries from offices in 10 locations worldwide. SOFICO's flagship product, SOFICO Miles Enterprise, supports the entire contract management lifecycle, helping organizations streamline operations, improve efficiency, and drive growth. For more information: www.sofico.global.

About Astorg

Astorg is a leading pan-European private equity firm with over €23 billion of assets under management. Astorg works with entrepreneurs and management teams to acquire market leading global companies headquartered in Europe or the US, providing them with the strategic guidance, governance and capital they need to achieve their growth goals. Enjoying a distinct entrepreneurial culture, a long-term shareholder perspective and a lean decision-making body, Astorg has valuable industry expertise in healthcare, software and technology, business services and technology-based industrial companies. Headquartered in Luxembourg, Astorg has offices in London, Paris, New York, Frankfurt, and Milan.

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