RELAIS D'AUMALE'S PIVOTAL YEARLING FILLY TOPS DEAUVILLE AUCTION, AGENT FERGUSON BUYS FRENCH-BRED CHESTNUT FOR SHEIK MOHAMMED, TEAM VALOR OWNED AND BRED THE MARE'S FIRST FOAL IN PARTNERSHIP



Team Valor International, in partnership, sold a Pivotal filly this evening that topped the second day of yearling sales at Arqana's annual Deauville Summer Sale. John Ferguson, representing Sheik Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, secured the filly on a final bid of 300,000 euros (\$427,298).

The chestnut yearling filly is the first foal out of Team Valor former mare Relais d'Aumale, a daughter of Rainbow Quest that won the Listed Prix Isonomy in France, and for Team Valor was placed in another Listed race in Italy, where she was a good fourth in the lucrative Group 1 Oaks d'Italia.

Relais d'Aumale was raced by Team Valor with an American partnership put together by Taylor Made Farm. A client of Haras des Capucines acquired the Taylor Made Farmmanaged 50 percent interest and after the Pivotal foal was born, Team Valor sold its 50 percent interest in the mare, retaining the foal to sell separately at public auction.

John Ferguson said "She was a very easy moving daughter of a very good sire who has had his share of top fillies. She just seemed a very attractive package."

"She was a well balanced and good-looking filly," noted Michel Zerolo, a partner with French horseman Eruc Peurari in ownership of Haras des Capucines. "I was not surprised that she realized such a good price."



Haras des Capucines sold the session-topping Pivotal yearling.

Team Valor International maintains its European broodmares at Haras des Capucines. Barry Irwin, owner of Team Valor International, said "With a few partners, Team Valor keeps half a dozen or so mares in France, where we both sell and race. We like the French racing and breeding program and have enjoyed success both as owners and sellers in France and England."

Among those mares currently in production for Team Valor and partners at Haras des Capucines is the veteran German producer Turfquelle, dam of European Group 1 winner Turfrose, who is now in the broodmare band of The Yoshida family of Japan. Another Team Valor broodmare is Lyphard's daughter Drei, who is the grandam of Canford Cliffs, the highest-rated 2-year-old in England and set to contest the Group 1 Prix Morny next following a victory at Royal Ascot in the Group 2 Coventry Stakes for Richard Hannon.

Haras des Capucines will offer filly foals by European Horse of the Year Manduro out of Turfquelle and a filly by Shirocco out of Drei at the Tattersalls December Sales in England.