

Browne Jacobson advises on NorthEdge backed buyout of Altia-ABM

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A team from Browne Jacobson's recently formed Management Advisory Group (part of the Private Equity team) comprising Partners <u>Gareth Davies</u> and <u>Gavin Cummings</u> and <u>Manchester based Partner lan Deakin</u> and Senior Associate <u>Ryan Brown</u> advised management.

The investment from NorthEdge backs Altia-ABM's newly promoted CEO Rob Sinclair, who joined the company in 2017, in leading the buyout.

The deal was funded by NorthEdge's SME fund, which was launched in 2018. The investment was led by George Potts, Director at NorthEdge; Kevin O'Loughlin, Investment Director; and Phil Frame, Director and Head of North West. Kevin O'Loughlin will join the Altia-ABM Board at completion, with Simon Hook joining as Chair, and Matt Duckhouse as Non-Executive Director.

Nottingham and Glasgow based Altia-ABM develops specialist investigation software for government departments and law enforcement agencies in the UK, Canada and Australia. The firm, which predominantly works with customers in the public sector, allows police forces and investigation teams to automate processes using technology, which reduces time and money spent on investigations and improves prosecution rates.

Rob Sinclair said: "We're an ambitious business and we're proud of our success so far. Our proposition is continuously expanding to meet the ever-changing digital landscape and having an investment partner like NorthEdge ensures we can build on that even further."

"The team at NorthEdge share the same vision as we do, and the TMT experience and insight they have shared so far has demonstrated that they understand and support our exciting vision for future growth."

This is the latest in a series of high-profile private equity backed deals Browne Jacobson's award-winning corporate finance team has advised on recently. These include the PAI Partners backed buyout of Addo Food Group, the Westridge-backed MBO of Bespoke Health & Social Care and CARE Fertility's acquisition of Nuffield Health's Woking Assisted Conception Service (ACS) backed by Silverfleet Capital

Gareth Davies, Private Equity Partner at Browne Jacobson, added: "The private equity community has been driving much of the deal activity since the initial lockdown. A number of areas have been attracting strong interest from investors and the TMT sector is certainly one of those."

"By bringing NorthEdge on board, Altia-ABM have a formidable team in place led by Rob to further grow its global footprint and future proof the business for many years to come."

"This latest deal, alongside the recent spate of investments we have advised on, highlights our first-class credentials when it comes supporting management teams on complex private equity led investments."

Rob Sinclair added: "The team at Browne Jacobson provided first class deal support tackling all of the issues in a commercial, pragmatic and user-friendly way, they were available 24/7 and worked tirelessly to get us the best result. I would thoroughly recommend Gareth and the team to other management teams requiring advice on PE deals."

Browne Jacobson is ranked by Experian as one of the country's leading corporate finance teams. With over 30 corporate and banking & finance lawyers, the national powerhouse acts on corporate and banking transactions for both domestic and international clients including, amongst others, FTSE 100 companies, private equity investors and the UKs leading banking institutions.

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