



PRESS RELEASE

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Access Capital Partners Group SA acquires Pohjola Private Equity Funds Ltd and strikes strategic distribution partnership with Pohjola Asset Management Ltd in Nordic countries

Pohjola Bank Plc, part of the OP-Pohjola Group acquires 40% of Access Capital Partners Group SA from CapMan Plc and the Access Managing Partners

As a result, the Access team will maintain its control over the company with 55% while CapMan shall retain 5%

Access Capital Partners Group SA (Access), the European Private Equity funds of funds Manager will acquire 100% of the shares of Pohjola Private Equity Funds Ltd (PPEF) while Pohjola Bank Plc will become a 40% shareholder in Access and CapMan will retain 5%.

- PPEF is a manager of Private Equity funds of funds and mandates with investments in over 100 private equity and mezzanine funds, primarily in Europe. PPEF is a subsidiary of Pohjola Asset Management Ltd and is part of the OP-Pohjola Group. Total assets under management are currently circa €1.6 Billion.
- The combined entities will manage aggregate funds of funds and mandates of circa €4.5 Billion under the Access brand. The PPEF team will be integrated into the overall Access team and constitute Access' Helsinki office.
- Given their complementary profiles, strong respective track records and differentiated client bases, Access and PPEF together will represent an even stronger platform to continue delivering high quality services to their clients in the European small and mid-market buy-out segment.
- Pohjola Asset Management Ltd will make a significant international step as part of the transaction. It will become Access' strategic distribution partner in Finland and later in other Nordic countries.



- The OP-Pohjola Group is a significant investor in Private Equity including Access and PPEF funds and is committed to the asset class long term.
- The new entrant will give CapMan Plc an opportunity to sell most of their shares in Access after almost 12 years of continued support in the firm's development.
- The 55% shareholding held by the team is shared among the Access Managing Partners, Dominique Peninon, Agnès Nahum and Philippe Poggioli as well as two partners who became shareholders in 2010. It is the Managing Partners' intention to further broaden the ownership of the firm among Access' partners with the set up of an option pool of up to 17% of the firm's equity to be distributed over the next three years.
- In addition, Pohjola Bank Plc is committed to remain a minority shareholder in Access.

The closing of the transaction is subject to the consent of the regulatory bodies in Guernsey (GFSC) and in France (AMF).

About Access

Access Capital Partners (www.access-capital-partners.com) is a leading, independent European provider of private equity funds of funds with circa €2.9 Billion under management. Since inception in 1999, Access' stable management team has remained disciplined and focused on the proactive screening, selection and management of European small to mid-market buy-out funds of funds and mandates. Access' combined primary and secondary approach to the management of funds of funds has been a key differentiator. The firm currently employs 32 people including 8 partners operating or advising from Paris, Brussels, London and Munich.

About Pohjola

Pohjola is a Finnish financial services group which provides its corporate and institutional customers with a diverse range of banking, non-life insurance and asset management services and private individuals with an extensive range of non-life insurance and private banking services. Pohjola Bank plc (Pohjola) is part of OP-Pohjola Group, the leading financial services group in Finland. Pohjola Asset Management Ltd is part of OP-Pohjola Group and responsible for asset management services for OP-Pohjola Group's major institutional and private clients. Its 168 asset management experts manage assets worth over €35 Billion. The company is the leading asset manager for Finnish private and institutional investors.



About CapMan

CapMan is one of the leading alternative asset managers in the Nordic countries and Russia and manages private equity funds with approximately EUR 3.6 billion in total capital. CapMan has six investment areas (CapMan Buyout, CapMan Technology, CapMan Life Science, CapMan Russia, CapMan Public Market and CapMan Real Estate), and each of them has a dedicated team and funds. Altogether CapMan employs approximately 150 people in Helsinki, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo, Moscow and Luxembourg. CapMan was established in 1989 and its B shares are listed on the Helsinki Stock Exchange since 2001.

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