

30 July 2008

**Jonathan Heathcote appointed as Partner at Palamon Capital Partners**

Palamon Capital Partners, one of Europe's leading mid-market private equity firms, has appointed Jonathan Heathcote as a Partner.

Mr Heathcote had previously spent nine years at European Acquisition Capital, the private equity firm, where he was one of the core team members and a Partner. Prior to joining European Acquisition Capital, he was a Senior Engagement Manager at McKinsey & Company. Mr Heathcote began his career with the Royal Marines, where he reached the rank of Captain. A graduate of Oxford University, he also received an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Mr Heathcote joins Palamon's London based team, which comprises 16 investment professionals from ten different countries and is initially expected to focus on further developing the Firm's UK investment opportunities. The Firm, with €1.1 billion of equity under management, is currently investing its second Pan-European fund, Palamon European Equity II, L.P.

Louis Elson, Managing Partner of Palamon Capital Partners, commented: "We are delighted to welcome Jonathan into our partnership. His experience and well-honed investment skills, as evidenced by an excellent investment history, will further support our expansion objectives. We also look forward to giving him a platform from which to apply that investment capability across Europe."

Commenting on his appointment, Mr Heathcote said: "I am excited to become a Partner at Palamon. The Firm has a strong reputation and proven track record as growth investors in the European mid-market. I look forward to contributing to the ongoing growth of the business".

Palamon's investments, which span over seven countries in Europe, include a diverse number of investments in the UK such as Towry Law, one of the leading UK independent financial advisors; Cambridge Education Ltd, a provider of pre-university education; and SAV Credit Ltd, a sub and near-prime credit card provider, which bought the Marbles credit card portfolio from HSBC at the end of 2007.

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**Palamon Capital Partners**

Palamon Capital Partners, LP is an independent private equity partnership founded in 1999, which is focused on providing equity for European growth services companies. Palamon, as a pan-European investor, originates, executes and manages investments in the UK, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, France, and Germany. The Firm targets investments in companies where it can be the lead private equity provider and where the partnership's experienced principals can provide strategic direction and support to help build equity value.

The Firm manages Palamon European Equity, L.P. and Palamon European Equity II, L.P., capitalised at €1.1 billion, and making up one of the largest pools of private equity capital dedicated to growth investment opportunities in Europe's mid market arena. Investors in Palamon funds are based mainly in the US and Europe and are among the most significant investment institutions in the world.

For more information on Palamon refer to [www.palamon.com](http://www.palamon.com)