



PRESS RELEASE

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ETHICA CORPORATE FINANCE

The new M&A family office for entrepreneurs and mid-market companies.

Piero Manaresi, former managing partner of Aurea Corporate Finance, together with Gabriele Coccini (former Director at Dresdner Kleinwort), Fausto Rinallo and Cosimo Vitola (respectively former Director and former Managing Director at Arner Corporate Finance) have founded Ethica Corporate Finance (“Ethica”), a new independent financial advisory firm specialized in Mergers&Acquisitions, Debt Advisory and IPOs.

The new firm – which has officially started its operations in January 2010 – aims to stand out on the market for its integrated and multi-functional approach to corporate finance projects.

Leveraging on the well-established business relationships built in years of market presence, and on the diversified expertise that the founding partners have gained in corporate finance advisory, Ethica aims to be a sort of *M&A family office* for entrepreneurs and mid-market companies.

Ethica has two classes of shareholders:

- the operating and managing partners, with over 15 years of experience in corporate finance advisory (M&A, Debt Advisory e IPO), gained working at primary investment banks and advising more than 200 M&A transactions;
- the strategic partners – represented by some successful Italian entrepreneurs, active in different key market sectors, appropriately diversified in terms of their businesses’ dimension and localization – who have shared Ethica’s project and vision and who will enter its share capital at the end of February. These shareholders will not have any managing power, but will provide their knowledge and expertise as an advisory board, enhancing Ethica’s activities

Ethica aims to achieve a direct coverage of the whole Italian territory by opening new branch offices in main Italian cities to cover local businesses. As of now, apart from Milan’s headquarters, where Gabriele, Cosimo and Fausto will operate, there is also a local office in Bologna, which is managed by Piero. The other regional offices will be established at the end of the ongoing selection process aimed at finding high standing, well connected professionals strongly linked to local territories and businesses.

Membership to Mergers Alliance: after approval from Mergers Alliance Board, Ethica is proud to be inheriting the membership in the network from Aurea Corporate Finance. Piero will continue being Italy’s reference partner for MA.

Together with Piero, both Stefano Pastore (Associate) and Claudia Papasergio (Office Manager) have joined Ethica from Aurea Corporate Finance. Stefano will continue acting as gatekeeper for Mergers Alliance and reference for the research team.

Ethica's team of professionals also include two other associates, Giorgio Carere and Enrico Faccioli, both with previous experiences in corporate finance advisory at Arner Corporate Finance.

Ethica's partners are also planning to enlarge the firm's structure and offering adding professionals with specific expertise in Debt Advisory.

New contacts:

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