

IK Partners acquires DA Languages from Foresight

London, 3 December 2021

IK Partners (“IK”) is pleased to announce that the IK Small Cap III Fund has acquired DA Languages Ltd. (“DAL” or “the Company”) from Foresight Group (“Foresight”). Financial terms of the transaction are not disclosed.

Founded in 1998 and headquartered in Manchester, DAL is one of the fastest growing language services providers in the UK, providing critical services to organisations communicating with non-English speakers. With a network of over 8000 mother tongue interpreters and translators, DAL’s offering spans face-to-face, video and telephone interpretation along with written translation services. Over 450 languages and dialects are provided, including sign language, enabling better outcomes for all stakeholders. Promoting inclusivity and equality is at the heart of DAL’s operations, ensuring that language barriers are removed in critical situations, particularly in healthcare and legal settings.

IK is acquiring the Company from Foresight, a leading listed infrastructure and private equity investment manager, which invested into DAL from its Regional Investment Fund in May 2018. During Foresight’s ownership, DAL has strengthened its management team, substantially grown its employee base and developed a highly diverse client base of NHS trusts, charities, city councils, and corporates, building a strong reputation for quality provision. The business has also invested significantly in technology and IT infrastructure to support its clients, including the acquisition of Miton Systems, an interpreting technology specialist, enabling DAL to offer its own proprietary video and telephone remote interpreting products.

The incumbent management team, led by Managing Director Matthew Taylor, as well as the founder, Actar Arya, will be reinvesting in the business. IK will work alongside the team to continue scaling DAL both organically and through add-on acquisitions, with a particular focus on investing further in DAL’s differentiated technology offering to broaden the client base across the public and private sectors and expand its range of services.

Tom Salmon, Partner at IK Partners and Advisor to the Small Cap III Fund, commented: “DAL is an excellent business operating in a market underpinned by attractive, long-term growth prospects. We have been very impressed with the achievements of Matthew and the rest of the team in broadening the business’ framework coverage and client base and further developing DAL’s proprietary technology offering. With our strong track record in supporting European technology-enabled services businesses to scale rapidly, we are delighted to be partnering with the management team on the next phase of the business’ journey.”

Matthew Taylor, Managing Director of DA Languages, commented: “We would like to thank the team at Foresight for their support over the past three and a half years; during which time we have grown our offering considerably to meet the critical needs of a broader range of customers. We are excited to partner with IK and benefit from their expertise and experience to further enhance our quality service and technology proposition.”

Claire Alvarez, Partner at Foresight, commented: “It has been such a positive experience working with Matt, Actar and the wider team at DAL, helping them expand their services to support vulnerable people. We are delighted that we have been able to support the Company’s rapid growth, creating so many new jobs whilst making such a worthwhile impact. We wish the team every success for the future.”

About IK Partners

IK Partners (“IK”) is a European private equity firm focused on investments in the Benelux, DACH, France, Nordics and the UK. Since 1989, IK has raised more than €14 billion of capital and invested in over 155 European companies. IK supports companies with strong underlying potential, partnering with management teams and investors to create robust, well-positioned businesses with excellent long-term prospects. For more information, visit www.ikpartners.com

About D.A. Languages Ltd.

D.A Languages Ltd. is a Manchester based language services provider delivering face-to-face, video and telephone interpreting, and written translation services to corporate clients, charities, NHS trusts and city councils. Founded in 1998, D.A. Languages has established an extensive database of 8,000 Mother Tongue Interpreters and Translators offering over 450 languages, making it one of the major language services providers in the UK. For more information, visit www.dalanguages.co.uk

About Foresight Group

Foresight Group was founded in 1984 and is a leading listed infrastructure and private equity investment manager. With a long-established focus on ESG and sustainability-led strategies, it aims to provide attractive returns to its institutional and private investors from hard-to-access private markets. Foresight manages over 300 infrastructure assets with a focus on solar and onshore wind assets, bioenergy and waste, as well as renewable energy enabling projects, energy efficiency management solutions, social and core infrastructure projects and sustainable forestry assets. Its private equity team manages eight regionally focused investment funds across the UK, supporting over 120 SMEs. Its Foresight Capital Management team manages four funds investing in listed real assets with environmental and social benefits, exceeding £1.3 billion Assets Under Management (AUM). Foresight operates from 12 offices across six countries in Europe and Australia with AUM of £8.1 billion as of 30 September 2021. Foresight Group Holdings Limited listed on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange in February 2021. For more information, visit <https://www.fsg-investors.com/>

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