

News Release

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Avanade Belgium Expands with Acquisition of Quadreon

Acquisition consolidates Avanade's position as Leading Microsoft Business Solutions Company

Avanade, a global IT consultancy, announced today it has acquired Belgian Quadreon, a leader in implementing Microsoft Dynamics AX enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions. Financial details were not disclosed.

The acquisition enables Avanade, which is dedicated to using the Microsoft platform to help enterprises achieve profitable growth, to continue to address the growing demand in the Belgian market for flexible, integrated, next-generation ERP systems and further strengthens the company's position as a global leader in implementing business solutions based on Microsoft Dynamics.

The acquisition, effective immediately, doubles the size of Avanade Belgium. All of Quadreon's staff will be retained in the transaction. Quadreon Executive Partner, Arno Visser, will assume responsibilities for helping to grow Avanade's Dynamics AX business in the region.

"Quadreon is a recognised system integrator in the Dynamics AX business in Belgium. We have partnered with Quadreon and worked closely with them for some time. Culturally they are a great fit with Avanade and we believe that this acquisition will enrich both organisations" said Jean-Marie Sacré, General Manager of Avanade France & Belgium. "The integration of experienced Quadreon consultants into our organisation will continue to expand the skills we offer and accelerate our ability to address larger and more challenging ERP engagements in Belgium".

"We're very proud of the business we've built over the past five years," said Arno Visser, Executive Partner of Quadreon. "Based on our dedicated focus on Logistics & Distribution, Textile and Apparel and Projects and Services, we were able to claim a leading position in the Belgian ERP market. We truly feel that our long time commitment to quality and our ISO certified project approach really contributed to Quadreon's business success. In fully leveraging Microsoft Dynamics AX we are able to increasingly attract companies that are internationally active and present, and we feel that being acquired by Avanade will enable us to serve our customers' international needs even better. In addition to that, becoming part of Avanade will provide our customers with an even broader service and support platform. This acquisition really affirms our commitment to quality, continuity and service.."

Avanade is a global leader for Microsoft Dynamics and this acquisition further elevates its position as a leading Dynamics AX solutions company. Like Avanade, Quadreon has a proven approach of working with its customers to design and deploy Dynamics AX ERP systems that meet their unique business needs across a wide variety of industries. Examples include: Hessenatie Logistics, Studio 100, Acertys, McThree Carpets.

"We will continue to build on Quadreon's vertical strategy in textile, logistics and professional services, where Quadreon designed and built dedicated assets," adds Francois Matte, Business Solution Director for Avanade France and Belgium. "Additionally we will leverage the existing capability that Quadreon has developed on Microsoft Dynamics Industry Solution (MDIS) for professional services, and for which Quadreon is acting as a the Professional Services Automation (PSA) support and training center. Our customers will also benefit from access to a broader range of Avanade services and consultancy skills specifically in the area of business intelligence, collaboration and infrastructure technologies. It's a very exciting time."

THE LEADING INTEGRATOR OF MICROSOFT SOLUTIONS IN TODAY'S ENTERPRISE

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Avanade

Avanade is a global IT consultancy dedicated to using the Microsoft platform to help enterprises achieve profitable growth. Through proven solutions that extend Microsoft technologies, Avanade helps enterprises increase revenue, reduce costs and reinvest in innovation to gain competitive advantage. Avanade consultants deliver value according to each customer's requirements, timeline and budget by combining insight, innovation and the talent of our global workforce. Avanade, which is majority owned by Accenture, was founded in 2000 by Accenture and Microsoft Corp. Avanade has more than 8,000 professionals serving customers in 22 countries worldwide. Additional information can be found at www.avanade.com.

About The Seamen's Pension Fund

The Seamen's Pensions Act is the oldest of Finland's occupational pension's acts, dating from 1956. That same year saw the foundation of the Seamen's Pension Fund which is responsible for implementing of the Act. The fund grants and pays out pensions to seamen based on paid employment. www.merimieselakekassa.fi

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