

October 2009

Latest News from YFM Group in the North West

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North West Dealmakers Awards 2009 - vote now

The North West Insider has opened its nominations for the **2009 Dealmaker Awards**.

The awards recognise the top corporate finance dealmakers in the North West as voted for by the industry.

North West Business Investment Scheme would like to thank all of you who have supported us over the last 12 months, and now have one small request - if you have the opportunity, please vote for us.

Voting is simple, [follow this link](#).

Categories:



Small Deal of the Year

Why?

Sale of Eclipse Energy to Vattenfall. The original investment was £600k in 2004, at such an early stage no-one else was interested in backing the enthusiastic innovative team. In November 2008 the business was sold to Vattenfall, one of the largest electricity generators in Europe in a £70m sale.

Fund of the Year

Why?

Investment

Over the last 12 months NWBIS invested in deals worth **£33m in the North West into 14 companies, 58 investments** over its lifetime.

Performance

The fund was recently independently assessed and found to be the **best performing fund** of its type in the UK.

In the last year there have been **5 realisations** generating in excess of **3x capital, 11 realisations** since its launch in 2003.

Wealth Generation

Almost **£500 million has been created and generated in wealth** for the region.

Investment in the North West

Over **£235m of co-investment** has been brought into the region thanks to NWBIS investments.

NWBIS has already realised **50% of its original capital invested**

Economic Impact

796 jobs have been created

£129m in sales creation

If you think NWBIS deserves to be recognised for its hard work and commitment to supporting small businesses in the region [vote here](#).

Perhaps you think NWBIS should be recognised for its success with the sale of DXS last week, then vote for [New Technology Deal of the Year 2009](#).

Thank you for your time and support.

Still funding the UK's SMEs

Businesses across the UK are still receiving investment. Over the last 8 months funds managed by YFM Group invested in 43 companies, investing in deals worth over £30 million.

David Hall comments *"It would be wrong of me to say that deals are completing at a pace similar to previous years, but I can say that deals are taking place. We operate at the innovative and fast changing end of the business life-cycle. Access to funding hasn't been such a necessity as it is currently. Over the years YFM has backed hundreds of SMEs and in particular we are seeing many of the businesses backed in previous downturns really pushing forward successfully, seizing opportunities and firmly establishing themselves."*

New Portfolio Director Appointed

David Bell joined YFM in August. He will be responsible for portfolio management functions within YFM Private Equity including taking on the management of a direct portfolio of higher value assets. He will join the board of YFM Private Equity Limited.

David Bell commented *"The move to YFM presented the opportunity to get involved with a huge variety of deals at possibly one of the most interesting times in recent years. I have considerable experience of re-aligning the interests of institutional investors with good management teams behind clear strategies to create and realise shareholder value, which will be a real asset to the business. I believe the YFM business model of backing strong management in growing UK businesses not only generates excellent returns for the shareholders of our funds, but will also make a material contribution to the recovery of the UK economy."*



Portfolio Updates

Myconostica has raised £1.7m in a fourth round of fundraising which will assist with the development and commercialisation of highly specific tests for life-threatening fungal infections.

Bglobal has announced a new two new contracts, one with the UK arm of Russian energy firm Gazprom and a second with retailer Superdrug. The smart energy provider will install its metering services across 900 sites, enabling Superdrug to monitor and manage its energy use.

For further details please call us on 0161 832 7603 or email info@yfmgroup.co.uk www.yfmprivateequity.co.uk

Click here to download the latest [YFM Private Equity Newsletter](#)

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