

Bregal Unternehmerkapital acquires a majority stake in SEMA Software

Wildpoldsried, Germany

The existing shareholders VIA equity, LEA Partners, and the CEO, Alexander Neuß, have decided to further accelerate the growth of SEMA, with Bregal Unternehmerkapital joining as the new majority shareholder. As part of the transaction, VIA equity and the CEO, Alexander Neuß, will co-invest with Bregal Unternehmerkapital, while LEA Partners has decided to exit its investment in SEMA.

Founded in 1984, SEMA offers solutions covering the full range of activities around timber and stairs construction for carpentries and prefabrication firms. The software suite provides one uniform easy-to-use program surface with applications that comprise all relevant fields, from 2D/3D CAD planning and design to photorealistic visualization to calculation and tender preparation and production plans and working drawings. With a significant market share in Germany, Austria, France, Italy, and Switzerland, SEMA maintains a remarkable customer base of more than 10,500 carpentries and prefab house manufacturers.

VIA equity and LEA Partners, as co-investor, acquired a controlling stake in SEMA in 2019 to support the company in its mission to expand the market leadership position and achieve operational excellence. Under the new ownership, SEMA has experienced tremendous top and bottom-line growth, building upon its best-in-class products and great customer relationships. In addition, as part of the investment strategy, SEMA established a strong 2nd level management, invested in its technology platform, acquired an ERP/CRM software provider, and executed various pricing and product bundling initiatives. Alexander Neuß, CEO at SEMA, commented: “We have changed from a small firm in the Allgäu region to a highly professionalized software provider with a strong product roadmap in BIM and cloudification within a short period. However, it is time for further internationalization and growth on a broader level.”, states Alexander Neuß representing the management team.

Philipp Struth, Partner at Bregal, remarks: “SEMA’s all-encompassing software suite for CAD/CAM solutions within the timber construction industry offers the best and most comprehensive solution. We are delighted to accompany the management team on SEMA’s growth trajectory and will add our experience with similar business models.”

“We are excited also to be part of the next phase and are confident that SEMA will maintain its market-leading position and further be able to lead change and innovation in its industry. We are looking forward to a very successful partnership with the competent team of Bregal”, says Sebastian Maciejewski, Principal at VIA equity.

About VIA equity

VIA equity is a leading Northern European private equity firm with an excellent track record of developing and transforming its portfolio companies into national and international industry leaders. The core investment focus of VIA equity is within a broad definition of software and tech-enabled service business models. With offices in Denmark and Germany, VIA equity currently invests from its latest, 4th fund. For more information, please visit www.viaequity.com

About Bregal Unternehmerkapital

Bregal Unternehmerkapital (“BU”) is part of a family-owned business that has grown over several generations. The BU funds invest in European mid-sized companies across a wide range of sectors with a focus on market leaders and “hidden champions” with strong management teams and outbreak potential. With patient capital, entrepreneurial expertise and a partnership approach, our team works closely with entrepreneurs to develop, internationalize and digitalize portfolio companies, and to help them generate sustainable value on a responsible basis. For more information, please visit www.bregal.de.

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