

SUCCESSFUL ACQUISITION FOR NCA ENTREPRENEUR DEAN CURRAN

Baar, 4 July 2024 – Novastone Capital Advisors (NCA) is proud to announce the next acquisition in the UK by Dean Curran’s Search Fund as part of our Entrepreneurship Through Acquisition (ETA) Program.

GARNER OSBORNE CIRCUITS LIMITED – CONTINUING A STRONG BUSINESS LEGACY

Dean Curran partnered with NCA in late 2022 with over 16 years’ experience as Operations Director and CEO in several family-owned UK technology manufacturing SMEs. Dean’s search fund kicked off in April 2023, with a focus on UK-based electrical or electronic engineering SMEs, and on 4 July 2024 he successfully acquired Garner Osborne Circuits Limited, a leading specialist in printed circuit board (PCB) manufacture and assembly and mechanical assembly located in Newbury, England.

With over 33 years of established history, Garner Osborne delivers UK market-leading PCBs that include rapid prototyping, small to medium-sized volumes, and large-volume offshore manufacture. The company had been facing a succession challenge and this transaction provided an exit for the founder and former Chief Executive Mike Garner and his business partner Nigel Priest, with Dean stepping into the business as Chief Executive and co-owner. Mike will remain a minority stakeholder in the company.

“I am grateful to Mike for trusting me to continue his legacy,” said Dean. “I have been hugely impressed by the operational excellence and extremely high-quality PCB products that Garner Osborne manufactures, supplying a diverse range of customer sectors. The business has great potential for growth I’m incredibly excited to be working with the teams at Garner Osborne to help carry the business forward for a bright future.”

NCA’s Entrepreneurship Through Acquisition (ETA) Program played a pivotal role in finalizing the transaction, explained Dean. “This deal would have been impossible without NCA’s support, in particular Albert Farreras and Isaac Leyne from NCA’s European M&A team, and Noora Haapaniemi from NCA’s Legal department. Having a team that I could turn to throughout the process really proved this program is unparalleled in comparison to anything else in the search fund world.”

Dean wishes to thank his intern Daniel Ewart, who has been with him since July 2023 and was extremely useful throughout the search and acquisition phases. Dean and the team at NCA, on behalf of all investors, would additionally like to extend our deepest thanks to Sandy Farmer at Ethos Partners LLP, who has been particularly helpful throughout the transaction, in addition to our key 3rd party advisors: the team from Birketts LLP including Alice Wooler, James Allen, Julia Harlock, Tom Berisford, and Maisie Lee; the team from Buzzacott including George Thresh, Alex Judd, and Tony Dillow; and Senior Debt Provider Steven Munt and Anna O’Neill at ThinCats.

“We know that many SMEs, which are the backbone of our economy, are facing succession challenges, and Dean’s acquisition is a prime example of how Entrepreneurship Through Acquisition can help maintain business continuity and legacy,” said Christian Malek, NCA’s CEO. “We congratulate Dean on this acquisition and look forward to continuing to work with him as he operates and grows Garner Osborne moving forwards.”

For more information about Dean please visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dean-currant-7925b94/>

For more information about Garner Osborne Circuits Limited please visit: <https://www.garnerosborne.co.uk/>

For more information about NCA please visit: <https://novastone-ca.com/index.php>

About Novastone Capital Advisors

Novastone Capital Advisors (NCA), founded in 2019, operates a specialised Entrepreneurship Through Acquisition (ETA) program that facilitates connections between investors and skilled entrepreneurs seeking to identify, acquire, manage, and expand privately held SMEs. The ETA Program is designed to create mutually advantageous outcomes for all involved parties: entrepreneurs gain access to capital and guidance on their journey to business ownership; co-investors access robust investment opportunities with a track record of success; and SME owners secure long-term succession solutions through qualified, funded entrepreneurs who uphold business legacy and continuity. With a team of over 40 professionals, 50 program participants, and 18 platform companies acquired, NCA stands as the leading program of its kind on a global scale.