

Press Release

7th March 2024

Oghma Partners advises Symrise on formation of Joint Venture with Th. Geyer Ingredients via divestment of 51% of THG Trading

Deal marks the fourth successfully completed transaction in the European food ingredients sector for Oghma Partners in 2024, reaffirming its strong international reach

Oghma Partners is pleased to announce its role as exclusive corporate finance advisor to Symrise UK Limited (“Symrise”) on the divestment of 51% of THG Trading Limited, the fruit juice ingredients trading subsidiary of Symrise UK Limited, to Th. Geyer Ingredients (the ingredients division of Th. Geyer GmbH & Co. KG). The terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

This transaction adds a further cross-border ingredients transaction to Oghma’s exponentially expanding portfolio of successful deals, underlining Oghma’s depth of experience in the food ingredients M&A sector in Europe.

Frank Hoewing, Vice President Western Europe & Managing Director Symrise Limited UK & Ireland, commented on the partnership with Oghma Partners: “I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Oghma Partners during the course of this process. The team showed consummate skill in negotiating the Joint Venture and helping to establish a strong, collaborative business poised for future growth”.

Markus Krekeler, Managing Director of THG Trading Limited, said: “This collaboration marks a significant milestone as we join forces to create a dynamic partnership with a shared vision for success. By entering this joint venture, Th. Geyer Ingredients wants to accelerate the successful business performance all over Europe and the Middle East.”

Tim Owen, Partner at Oghma Partners, said: “It was a pleasure to work with the Symrise and THG teams and to have reached a successful conclusion to the process. This is our fourth completed transaction in 2024 and marks another successful deal in the food ingredients space in Europe, making Oghma Partners the most active M&A advisor in this sub-sector of the food industry.”

Some of Oghma Partners’ recent ingredient deals have included acting as the lead financial advisor to Sonae (Portugal) via its subsidiary Sparkfood on the acquisition of Diorren, the holding company of BCF Life Sciences (France); advising Givaudan (Switzerland) on the divestment of Naturex Iberian Partners (Spain) to Berkem (France); advising Ornuia (Ireland) on the divestment of its UK blending business to Aymes (UK); advising Good Food Wines (UK) on its sale to Kiril Mischeff (UK); advising Algaia (France) on its sale to J. Rettenmaier & Söhne (Germany); advising

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KTC Edibles (UK) on its sale to Endless (UK); advising Novax Group (Sweden) on the acquisition of Ulrick and Short (UK); advising Solina Group (France) on the acquisition of UK-based Bowman Ingredients; and advising Givaudan (Switzerland) on the divestment of both its pectin business to Herbstreith & Fox (Germany) and of its processed and grated cheese business (Netherlands).

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About Symrise

Symrise is a global supplier of fragrances, flavours, food, nutrition and cosmetic ingredients. Its clients include manufacturers of perfumes, cosmetics, food and beverages, pharmaceuticals and producers of nutritional supplements and pet food. Its sales of €4.73 billion in the 2023 fiscal year make Symrise a leading global provider. Headquartered in Holzminden, Germany, the Group is represented by more than 100 locations in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the United States and Latin America. Symrise works with its clients to develop new ideas and market-ready concepts for products that form an integral part of everyday life. Economic success and corporate responsibility are inextricably linked as part of this process. Symrise – always inspiring more.

About Th. Geyer

For more than 130 years, Th. Geyer has always been looking to the future. In the Laboratory business unit, we ensure customers can concentrate fully on their demanding tasks in analytics, research and science thanks to our full supply. With innovative raw materials and services in the Ingredients business unit, we support our customers from the food, beverage and cosmetics industries in the development and manufacture of modern products.

About Oghma Partners

Based in London, Oghma Partners is an independent corporate finance advisory firm providing acquisition, divestment and strategy advice to UK and Continental European consumer-focused companies and investors. A ten-strong team, offering a combined track record of over 100 successfully completed deals and award-winning industry research expertise, Oghma Partners is ideally positioned to ensure its clients meet their corporate goals. The team includes members with extensive investment banking experience gained in senior roles at leading global investment banks. Oghma Partners combines the big bank tool kit with an old-fashioned focus on the client. For more information please visit us at www.oghmapartners.com.

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