

HAWKINS HATTON ASSIST BONINGALE NURSERIES FLOURISH WITH ACQUISITION



Boningale Ltd, one of the UK's largest nurseries and environmental horticultural specialists, is expanding operations after acquiring fellow Shropshire nursery Worfield Gardens.

We worked with leading local accountancy firm Garratts who played a lead role in advising Boningale's directors on all aspects of the deal, including carrying out due diligence, negotiating the asset sale agreement and the disclosure letter and managing the transaction to a swift completion.

The Albrighton company, which currently supplies more than one million home-grown plants every year primarily to the construction and horticultural industry, said adding the Bridgnorth-based Worfield Gardens to its portfolio meant it could expand its plant range and customer base in line with its strategic long term plans.

Worfield Gardens, which was founded in the 1950s by Sir Oliver and Lady Leese, is renowned for its high quality production and breeding of alpines, heathers, and perennials.

Boningale completed the purchase of Worfield Gardens for an undisclosed sum.

Matt Mott, Boningale Ltd's Managing Director,

Left to right, James Roden, Garratts; Ruth Murday, Hawkins Hatton; Matt Mott, Boningale Ltd

said: "Worfield Gardens, which operates over a 5 acre site, has long had an excellent reputation for the production of high quality nursery stock. Their range is the perfect complement to our existing portfolio of container and specimen plants."

"We are delighted to welcome the Worfield Gardens team into the Boningale family. We are all very excited to be able to roll out our expansion plans and develop our portfolio of stock lines together; this should enhance the offering from both businesses to our customers, who will have access to an even greater variety of plant stock and services."

This acquisition continues Boningale Ltd's objective of expansion and diversification within the horticultural industry and follows the recent launch of its Greensky department into the green roof sector.

Colin Rodrigues, our Corporate Partner, said: "We were delighted to help Boningale complete the acquisition which will enable the business to flourish further within its key horticultural markets."

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CEENorm SURGES FORWARD WITH SUCCESSFUL ACQUISITION

One of the UK's leading distributors of industrial plugs and sockets, CEENorm UK Ltd, who are based in Telford, has boosted its voltage following the acquisition of CableCaddy Ltd, the principal UK distributor of portable power solutions and associated products.

With nearly 25 years experience in the electrical industry, CEENorm has developed a reputation as a prominent provider of high quality electrical products throughout the UK. CEENorm has established relationships with some of the leading electrical suppliers including Bals Elektrotechnik, the Hensel brand (in relation to cable junction boxes), Haupa (for a range of electricians' tools), and Transpower Engineering.

The acquisition of CableCaddy will allow CEENorm to amplify its product range to supply portable power solutions. CableCaddy's current offering includes Hand Wound, Spring Return and specialist cable reels to suit every application. CableCaddy was formed in 1993 following the acquisition of the Marcaddy business from MK Electric. Marcaddy is a recognised brand for quality and reliability in power connections and it has remained the industry's number one choice for over 60 years.

CEENorm were represented by Ruth Murday of our firm. We worked together with Brian Bates of Bates and Co, Shrewsbury based accountants, to bring the transaction to a successful completion following protracted negotiations. The transaction was backed by HSBC who were represented by Colin Rodrigues, our Corporate Partner.

Ruth commenting on the purchase stated that "The acquisition will expand the offering of CEENorm to ensure an electrifying strategy of growth for the business".

Brian Bates added "The purchase was an obvious



Left to right, Brian Bates, Bates & Co; Ruth Murday, Hawkins Hatton; Tony Potts, Managing Director, CEENorm

choice for CEENorm, the complimentary product range will assist the growth of the Group in the coming years".

Jon Forster of HSBC commented that "CEENorm are a successful client and therefore assisting them in the funding for the purchase of CableCaddy was an easy decision for the bank given its commitment to supporting manufacturing businesses."

Tony Potts, Managing Director of CEENorm commented "Having the right legal and accounting advisors created the least resistance for the process meaning I could short circuit what could have been a difficult transaction. We are starting to fuse CableCaddy in to the CEENorm business model, which will make for a more efficient structure across the Group".

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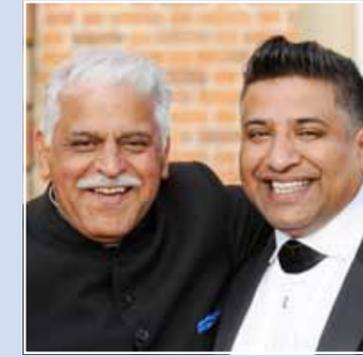
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OUR ANNUAL ENTREPRENEURS DINNER AT WESTON PARK



More than eighty leading entrepreneurs who run SME businesses across the West Midlands attended the annual Hawkins Hatton Entrepreneurs Dinner at Weston Park in Staffordshire which was a huge success.



This was our fourth annual Entrepreneurs Dinner and the event has grown in stature attracting leading individuals who use the opportunity to share ideas with other like-minded people.



We held the event to promote business relationships and help focus the minds of these business leaders to economic issues common to different industries. We also used the event to thank our clients for their constant support which has enabled HH to become a leading niche corporate law firm in the Midlands.



The event became an unexpected double celebration as on that day, Ivan Knezovich, owner of West Midlands Safari Park publicly announced the birth of Sutton the first baby elephant to be born in the 41 year history of the Safari Park.



Colin Rodrigues, the corporate partner, said: "It was an opportunity for us to thank our clients for their continued support during what has been a difficult few years. It was an enjoyable evening with clients old and new. It is always a pleasure to hear how our clients' businesses are thriving and to exchange ideas. I am already looking forward to our next annual dinner."

