

## PRESS RELEASE

# Projective Group acquires Dutch consulting firm Mastermind

4 October 2021 - <u>Projective Group</u>, the international consulting firm, has today announced its acquisition of the Dutch management consultancy <u>Mastermind</u>. With this acquisition, Projective Group increases its annual revenue to approximately € 60 Million and has over 450 experts across 6 European countries.

The partnership, which sees the Dutch firm become a full subsidiary of the larger group, is the latest in a series of acquisitions by Projective Group as part of its plans for expansion across Europe. Prior to Mastermind, Projective Group acquired DTSQUARED, a London-based data consultancy, in early August of 2021.

Mastermind's team of 30 consultants will help position Projective Group in the specialised Dutch pensions market. They bring complimentary experience and an excellent track record in organisational acceleration, strategy, advice, and digital transformation in pensions, insurance and banking in The Netherlands.

#### Stefan Dierckx, CEO of Projective Group, said:

"Mastermind adds a powerful new piece to the Projective Group puzzle. Our ambition to become a onestop-shop for change within the financial services industry in Europe is becoming reality. With Projective, specialists in delivering change and innovation in FS, Exellys, a young tech talent incubator, DTSQUARED, specialists in data consultancy and now Mastermind, our newest business accelerators, we are expanding our portfolio of services. Furthermore, the collaboration with Mastermind enables us to expand our capacity to support large-scale transformation in the Dutch pensions market."

Knowledge-sharing between the experts at Mastermind and the wider subsidiaries of Projective Group, provide opportunities for exciting new client journeys, both locally and across borders. The acquisition will lead to an improved service for Projective Group clients.

By combining the additional skills gained by the acquisition with their existing services, Projective Group will provide a wide range of management consultancy solutions under one umbrella network.

#### Koos Haakma, Managing Partner of Mastermind, said:

"I'm very excited that we're joining Projective Group. Of course, our company's passion for successful delivery and our results-driven mindset remain, but with the support of the Group we can offer our existing clients more value and broaden our own customer base. This also enables our employees to accelerate their personal growth and grants them access to new areas of expertise. This collaboration will give us a head start to become one of the leading consultancy firms in Europe."

Mastermind and Projective Group will initially remain separate entities as Mastermind is a strong brand in the Dutch market with a good reputation for quality and successful delivery. The objective of this new collaboration is to support and make each other better by sharing expertise and work on joint projects.

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#### UK PR contact:

Jemima Wright, Rostrum

j.wright@rostrum.agency

+44 7747 611 469

#### ABOUT PROJECTIVE GROUP

Projective Group is a holding company encompassing multiple entities covering all aspects of transformation in today's financial industry. Projective Group is an end-to-end partner for those who want to excel in an ever-changing environment, helping shape businesses today to meet tomorrow's challenges.

Projective Group aims to become a one-stop-shop for change in the financial services industry. The complementarity of the Projective Group companies' services gives clients the possibility to receive a full-service experience under one roof.

Projectivegroup.com

#### ABOUT PROJECTIVE

Projective drives innovation and change in the financial industry by stimulating complex business transformation, sustainable change, measurable value and cost reduction. With their in-depth expertise in banking, payments, capital markets, asset management, stock exchanges and insurance, Projective's experts carry organisations forward in the fields of regulation, digital innovation, (digital) change processes and operational excellence.

The 'Projectivers' are a unique collective of senior industry professionals, management consultants and delivery and technology experts. Together with the Projective Group companies (Exellys, DTSQUARED & Mastermind) and our ecosystem partners The Glue, Start-ups.be & Scale-ups.eu and Smartfin, we provide financial institutions access to industry-leading innovative expertise and delivery. They serve their customers from offices in Europe's leading European financial centres, including Brussels, Amsterdam, London, Frankfurt, Paris and Zurich.

Projective.biz

#### ABOUT MASTERMIND

Mastermind is an independent management consulting firm from the Netherlands. Its 30 consultants and subject matter experts are frontrunners in the Dutch pension market and have a strong presence in financial services and industry in the Netherlands. It advises and assists its clients in the areas of organisational acceleration, strategy & advice, and digital transformation.

Mastermind brings knowledge of the full process and systems life cycle in insurance & pensions, banking and industry with a great track record for building expertise and sustainable experience in guiding consultants through its acclaimed academy.

Mastermind's client portfolio consists of Dutch household names in finance.

mastermind.eu

#### ABOUT DTSQUARED

DTSQUARED is a specialist consultancy solving business challenges and unlocking opportunities using the Power of Data. Through their significant data expertise and end-to-end data management capabilities, DTSQUARED help their clients by creating tangible business benefits via their data strategy.

DTSQUARED focus on Data Management covering Governance, Quality, Architecture and Master Data Management as well as extensive end-to-end project and programme management capabilities. Working across the UK, US and Europe, the team have helped solve data challenges for numerous global organisations across sectors including financial services, real estate, utilities and the public sector.

dtsquared.co.uk

#### ABOUT EXELLYS

Exellys helps companies attract and retain highly skilled talent in IT and engineering functions. With a program of intensive training and coaching in technical, management and soft skills, Exellys takes this tech talent to a higher level, making it immediately employable.

Exellys ensures that companies can call on the best tech talent available, both permanently and on a flexible / project basis, thereby enabling them to continue to focus on their core business. Since its start in 2014, Exellys has grown into a company with 140 consultants and 24 internal employees.

www.exellys.com