

PRESS RELEASE

Projective Group expands its payments strategy expertise with the acquisition of Thede Consulting

- Projective Group has acquired Thede Consulting to strengthen their position in the DACH region and the financial sector.
- Thede's strategic expertise will be integrated into Projective Group and directly utilised in the European market, where Projective is already active.
- The acquisition is supported by investment firm GIMV, reflecting their confidence in Projective's expertise and growth potential.

Brussels, 26 July 2024 - Projective Group is excited to announce the acquisition of Thede Consulting, a prominent German management consultancy specialising in Payments and digitalisation strategy. This move aligns with Projective Group's growth plan, enhancing its position in the financial services and adjacent sectors and increasing its presence in the DACH region. This next step in Projective Group's growth journey is realised with the continued support of GIMV, demonstrating its trust in the company's vision, capabilities, growth potential and impact in financial services.

Andre Standke, Managing Partner of Thede Consulting said: "We are excited to become an active part of Projective Group, a move that marks a significant milestone for our firm and our clients. It empowers us to cover the entire value chain, delivering true end-to-end solutions with a European reach. We look forward to leveraging the synergies with Projective Group to provide our clients with even more comprehensive strategic guidance on their business models and successfully implement these strategies with the additional integrated services. Moreover, their culture with its people-first approach aligns perfectly with our values. As part of the group, we are convinced that we will create significant value for our clients and employees - truly an ideal match."

The acquisition of Thede Consulting significantly bolsters Projective Group's capabilities, expanding its local team to approx. 100 professionals across key locations such as Frankfurt, Munich, Hamburg, and Switzerland and its global team to 1 200 people. This expansion broadens the range and quality of services offered to clients and enhances the capacity to manage larger and more complex projects.

Stefan Dierckx, CEO of Projective Group: "Thede Consulting's expertise in payments strategy will be crucial as we work together to deliver tailored solutions in the payments sector. With the rapidly evolving payments landscape,

increasing regulatory demands, and the rise of digital and real-time payment solutions, Thede Consulting joining Projective Group couldn't be timelier."

Unlocking synergies for tailored client solutions

Leveraging insights from previous acquisitions, Projective Group is set to maximise the benefits of this new collaboration. Thede Consulting's profound expertise will enable Projective Group to fine-tune its strategic focus and operational execution, ensuring an optimal balance between strategy and implementation within the payments area. This partnership also opens avenues to diversify Thede Consulting's services beyond payments, utilising its extensive European network to deliver innovative, client-centric solutions.

Commitment to growth

The acquisition of Thede Consulting is a pivotal step in Projective Group's longterm strategy, emphasising a balanced approach to growth through both organic development and strategic acquisitions. By continually enhancing its capabilities and expanding its geographic reach, Projective Group aims to offer unparalleled expertise and innovative solutions, solidifying its position as a leading and trusted advisor in the financial services industry.

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About Projective Group

Established in 2006, Projective Group is a leading financial services consultancy specialising in strategy, implementation, and sourcing. With over 1,200 experts across Europe, our extensive presence and deep expertise enable us to deliver innovative solutions that drive growth and efficiency. Projective Group's total global revenue stands at €150 million, reflecting our significant impact and reach within the financial services industry.

About Thede Consulting

Thede Consulting, with over 30 years of experience, offers advisory services in the payments sector both domestically and internationally. Their team brings distinct skills that drive collective success. They specialise in future payments, innovative

business models, and using advanced technology to boost competitiveness through digital transformation. Moreover, Thede Consulting has a stronghold in supporting its clients during implementation, e.g. finding an appropriate partner for a payment product and orchestrating the subsequent migration.

For more information, please visit our website: <u>https://www.projectivegroup.com</u>