



London Stock Exchange Group launches online private placement platform

- **ELITE Club Deal will offer over 400 ELITE companies the opportunity to connect to institutional investors, private equity, VCs and other professional investors**
- **ELITE Club Deal enhances the range of business support services offered to ELITE companies from financial education to private capital raising**
- **Pilot phase testing will begin shortly prior to full launch in late 2016**

London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) today announces the launch of ELITE Club Deal (ECD), a new online private placement platform for ELITE companies and professional investors. The initiative will help to bridge a funding gap by bringing together professional investors with high growth companies in a secure and efficient environment through an online platform. Pilot phase testing with five European ELITE companies will begin shortly, with a full go-live planned for late 2016, subject to regulatory approval.

To access new private growth capital using the platform, be that equity or debt funding, ELITE companies will require the support of “ELITE Partners,” such as banks, financial advisors, lawyers and auditors to help them prepare and upload required corporate documentation to the platform. All company documentation will be presented in a standardised format, further streamlining the investment process for participants.

“Cornerstone Investors,” including institutional investors, private equity and venture capital firms, will be given the opportunity to access company data and negotiate deal terms as lead investors on the platform in a fully compliant environment. These financings will later be made available to “Follow-on Investors.” “Agents,” typically corporate brokers and banks will facilitate introductions between companies and investors.

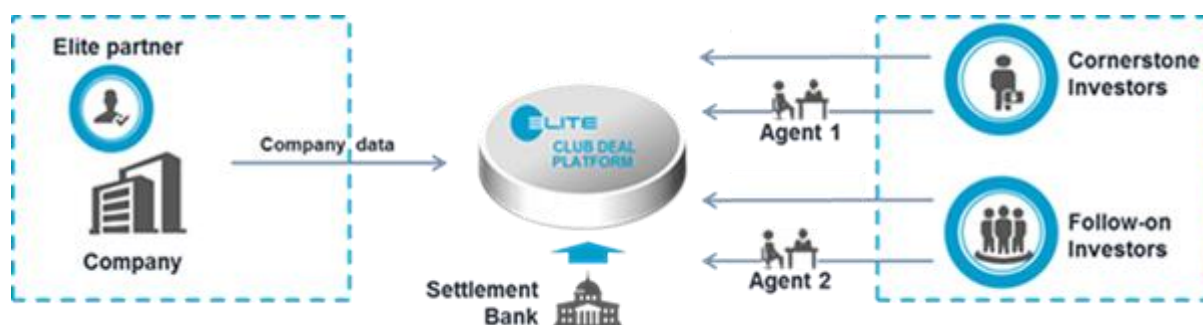
Luca Peyrano, CEO, ELITE:

“ELITE Club Deal provides ELITE companies, which are typically high growth businesses, with access to a broad group of international investors. ECD bridges the gap between the supply and demand of capital in a new way, allowing professional investors to have a stake in some of Europe’s fastest growing private businesses. For companies, ECD is a ‘one-stop-shop,’ giving them access to a host of institutions in a secure environment, ultimately allowing them to finance their growth and in turn drive job creation and innovation across Europe and beyond.”

Since 2012, ELITE has supported more than 400 fast growing businesses prepare and structure for the next stage of growth, guiding them on how best to access the most suitable funding for their needs. ELITE Club Deal is the natural next step in the evolution of ELITE’s suite of business support services.



About ELITE Club Deal:



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About London Stock Exchange Group:

London Stock Exchange Group (LSE.L) is an international markets infrastructure business. Its diversified global business focuses on capital formation, intellectual property and risk and balance sheet management. LSEG operates an open access model, offering choice and partnership to customers across all of its businesses. The Group can trace its history back to 1698.

The Group operates a broad range of international equity, ETF, bond and derivatives markets, including London Stock Exchange; Borsa Italiana; MTS (Europe's leading fixed income market); and Turquoise (a pan-European equities MTF). Through its platforms, LSEG offers market participants, including retail investors, institutions and SMEs unrivalled access to Europe's capital markets. The Group also plays a vital economic and social role, enabling companies to access funds for growth and development.

Through FTSE Russell, the Group is a global leader in financial indexing, benchmarking and analytic services with approximately \$10 trillion benchmarked to its indexes. The Group also provides customers with an extensive range of real time and reference data products, including SEDOL, UnaVista, XTF and RNS.

Post trade and risk management services are a significant part of the Group's business operations. In addition to majority ownership of LCH, a multi-asset global CCP operator, LSEG owns CC&G, the Italian clearing house; Monte Titoli, a leading European custody and settlement business; and globeSettle, the Group's CSD based in Luxembourg.

LSEG is a leading developer and operator of high performance technology solutions, including trading, market surveillance and post trade systems for over 40 organisations and exchanges, including the Group's own markets. Additional services include network connectivity, hosting and quality assurance testing. MillenniumIT, GATElab and Exactpro are among the Group's technology companies.

Headquartered in the United Kingdom, with significant operations in North America, Italy, France and Sri Lanka, the Group employs approximately 3,500 people.

Further information on London Stock Exchange Group can be found at www.lseg.com