



Larka

Press release

Merger & Acquisition

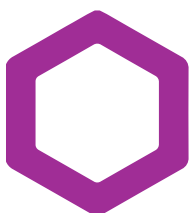
25th of May, 2021

Larka provided Keensight Capital with a Commercial Due-Diligence on its acquisition of Symeres.



KEENSIGHT

CAPITAL



Symeres



Pierre-Anthony Brioir, Director at Larka, stated:



This Commercial Due-Diligence will go down in Larka's history.

We were able to provide the in-depth analysis that Keensight hired us to deliver, under an extremely tight deadline. With a high rate of successful deals overarching a long-running partnership, Larka and Keensight have a very collaborative relationship, which facilitates an especially effective outcome.

Commercial Due-Diligence

Commercial Due-Diligence within the BioPharma space is dramatically more complex than within other universe.

With close to **30 years** of experience and an unrivalled team of senior-level experts, our Biotech & Pharma industry knowledge is matchless.

We provide our Private Equity clients with **unparalleled insights** on market dynamics, customers environment and competitive landscape, target's business plan, risk and opportunities.

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Larka is thrilled to announce that it performed the Commercial Due-Diligence for Keensight Capital on its acquisition of leading European API CRO & CDMO Symeres.



We are very pleased to be the new majority shareholders of Symeres, alongside management. The Larka team has been extremely helpful in our commercial diligence efforts, and we benefited greatly from their insight, understanding and expertise. We look forward to future projects together.

Pierre Remy, Managing Partner at Keensight Capital.

Keensight Capital, one of the principal private equity managers dedicated to pan-European Growth Buyout investments, has reached an agreement to invest alongside management in Symeres, a leading European drug discovery Contract Research Organization (CRO) and Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO). According to the terms of the agreement, Keensight Capital will acquire a majority stake in Symeres from the Gilde Healthcare Private Equity fund, a leading European specialist healthcare investor.

Symeres is one of the largest European small molecule CRO & CDMO, providing R&D services from preclinical drug discovery to Phase I and II clinical stage drug development and manufacturing to major pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies around the globe. Its highly specialized services include: integrated small molecule optimization efforts, complex synthetic chemistry, route scouting & drug synthesis up to GMP production, solid state chemistry and ADME-Tox services.

Symeres, headquartered in the Netherlands, employs over 500 people, many of whom are PhD scientists, operating over 6 sites spread across the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Finland and Sweden, along with a business development office in the USA. Over several decades, the company has enjoyed a strong growth trajectory, with revenues rising organically at a double-digit rate per annum, further complemented by strategic M&A. **In 2021, the group expects to reach over € 70mn in sales.**

Keensight Capital plans to support the management team – *led by co-founders Eelco Ebbers, PhD and Frank Leemhuis, PhD, as well as CFO Guillaume Jetten* – in pursuing and accelerating the organic and external growth of the company, while continuing to provide clients with the industry-leading service Symeres is known for.

About Keensight Capital

Keensight Capital, one of the leading European Growth Buyout firms, is committed to supporting entrepreneurs as they implement their growth strategies. For 20 years, Keensight Capital's team of seasoned professionals has leveraged their knowledge of investment and growth industries to invest for the long term in profitable companies with high growth potential and revenues in the range of € 10mn to € 300mn. Drawing on its expertise in the Technology and Healthcare sectors, Keensight identifies the best investment opportunities in Europe and works closely with management teams to develop and achieve their strategic vision.

For more information, please visit www.keensightcapital.com

About Symeres

Symeres is a leading mid-sized European Contract Research Organization for drug discovery and development needs. With over 500 employees at six locations - *Groningen, Nijmegen, & Weert in the Netherlands, Prague in the Czech Republic, Oulu in Finland and Södertälje in Sweden* - as well as a business development office in the US, the company offers best-in-class solutions for drug discovery and drug development for small molecules and beyond. Their services span from preclinical hit finding all the way to the delivery of early clinical phase drug substance API. Symeres blends a deep scientific knowledge base with creativity and problem-solving skills to deliver quality results that clients need.

For more information, please visit www.symeres.com

About Larka

Larka is a management consulting firm, exclusively dedicated to the Biotech and Pharma industry. We assist small Biotech or large Pharma companies, Contract Services Providers or Equipment Suppliers, Venture Capital or Private Equity firms, in their development or in managing complex situations. Active in Technical, Organizational, Commercial and Strategic operations, Larka has developed a unique combination of expertise which covers CMC & Outsourcing activities, Operational & Commercial excellence, Marketing & Sales, Corporate Strategy and M&A.

For more information, please visit www.larka.com