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Corporate Finance

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M&A activity in the
UK logistics sector

As part of our focus on, and specialism in, the UK logistics sector RPGCC is pleased to provide an update on M&A activity in the sector over recent months.

Despite the normal summer lull, the period July - September 2023 saw a number of M&A transactions in the UK logistics sector;

In August, the Bradford based Expect Distribution Group continued its impressive acquisition record by purchasing Colchester based Pallet Plus Ltd, a provider of palletised freight services across the UK and Europe. The acquisition strengthens Expect's presence in the South of England.

In July, Challenge Group acquired Portman Logistics, a container transport and haulage business which serves most of the ports in the UK. The acquisition increases the scale and scope of Challenge's transport activities.

July also saw the acquisition of a significant minority equity stake in Menzies Distribution by Inpost, Poland's leading provider of out of home delivery provider. The deal, valued at £164 million, also involved a strategic partnership between the two companies, whereby Menzies will become Inpost's sole logistics provider in the UK.

Two other disclosed transactions during the quarter were South Africa HQd Super Group's acquisition of a 78.82% shareholding in Amco for £30.3 million. Amco provides specialist land, air and sea logistics to UK and European customers from 11 UK operations and hubs located across Europe and the acquisition expands Super Group's international operations.

Finally, Seafrigo Group of France acquired Perishable Movements Ltd, a specialist in the movement of perishable goods and operates from three locations in the UK. Terms were not disclosed.

Be sure to look at other areas of the RPGCC expertise in the logistics sector <https://www.rpgcrouchchapman.co.uk/sectors/logistics-and-transport> and to visit our website again later in the year when we will provide a more comprehensive analysis of transactions in the sector for the whole of 2023.



Philip Bird is a Partner in the London Corporate Finance team and he has over 25 years experience in corporate finance, principally providing mergers and acquisitions and fund raising advice.

Philip has worked with major multinational organisations and privately held businesses, including private equity firms and management teams. Philip has particular experience and expertise in the transport and logistics sector and leads the firms services in this sector.

If you have any questions about this article or indeed any area of logistics and M&A transactions, Philip and his team would be delighted to help.

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