

BC Partners Strikes Second Deal From Flagship Buyout Fund

By William Louch

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The firm's tenth buyout fund held a €4 billion first close in September 2016

London-based buyout firm BC Partners has signed an agreement to buy Italian dental service provider DentalPro in what will be its second deal from its tenth buyout fund.

The fund, which has a €7 billion target, is expected to close on target in the first half of the year, a person familiar with the matter said. The fund held a first close – the point at which it can begin investing – on €4 billion in September 2016, the person added.

BC Partners completed its first investment from the fund on May 2, when it turned its datacentre portfolio into a new technology company called Cyxtera Technologies.

BC Partners will buy DentalPro from a consortium of investors including fellow private-equity firm Summit Partners. Under the terms of the transaction, management will reinvest alongside BC Partners. Financial details of the transaction were not disclosed.

Milan-based dental business DentalPro operates 112 clinics across 40 Italian provinces and has grown rapidly since it was founded in 2010. It has opened 50 new clinics since 2012 and delivering growth in revenue and earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortisation by over 100% a year.

Nikos Stathopoulos, Managing Partner at BC Partners, said in a statement that the firm will use the company as a platform to consolidate what it considers a 'fragmented market' and to grow the business overseas.

BC Partners has been investing in Italy for over 30 years and currently owns a number of Italian companies.

These include Cigierre, an Italian restaurant chain, and clothing chain OVS, which is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange.

The firm reduced its stake in OVS on May 12 when it sold 12% of the company at a premium to its listing price. The firm raised €166 million from the sale of 25 million shares in the retailer.