

Vision 2023

Leaders driving growth

In association with



Grant Thornton

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Foreword

Vision 2023, in partnership with Grant Thornton, is more than the celebration of exceptional teams backed by private capital. It's a celebration of their innovation, growth, exemplary ESG commitments, ambition, creativity and competitiveness. The initiative highlights the incredible range of businesses that our members support across different sectors, sizes and nations and regions of the UK.

Against a challenging backdrop of rising inflation and interest rates, supply chain issues and the impact of the war in Ukraine, businesses needed to adapt and navigate new challenges in 2022. We are proud to recognise 14 exceptional companies, who showed vision and the lasting value that the investment and support of their investors brought in 2022.

We are pleased to highlight our National Winners, four of the top 14 companies, representing each investment stage: early stage, scale-up, medium-sized, and large businesses. We are further delighted to highlight numerous companies that stood out as 'Ones to watch', and we continue following their journey with the support of private capital.

Case studies are integral to all aspects of the BVCA's work in representing the UK's private equity and venture capital industry. These success stories are indispensable as we continue to engage with politicians, parliamentarians, policymakers and other external stakeholders, to demonstrate our industry's contribution to growth, innovation, talent, competitiveness and sustainability across the UK.

We would like to express our gratitude to Grant Thornton, our long-term partner of the initiative and the judging advisory panel who assisted with the assessment of the submissions. We would also like to thank our members who took part in nominating their teams and sharing the success stories.



Leon de Bono
Managing Director, Industry Value,
BVCA



About Vision 2023

Vision 2023, in association with Grant Thornton, recognises the best teams backed by private equity and venture capital, with judging criteria including growth, competitiveness, innovation and ESG.

The initiative recognises extraordinary companies that show vision and the lasting value that the investment and support of their investors brought in 2022, especially given the difficult climate.

In this booklet we further highlight our National Winners, four of the top 14 companies, representing each investment stage: early stage, scale-up, medium-sized, and large businesses. Find out more about them in the video below and this booklet.

Further information regarding Vision 2023 can be found on the [BVCA website](#).

Learn more about this year's National Winners in our Vision 2023 video

The judging panel

Chair:



Jan Rutherford
Scottish Equity Partners

Judges:



Dr. Manjari Chandran-Ramesh
Amadeus Capital Partners



Rhian Elston
Development Bank of Wales



Beth Houghton
Palatine



Matt Jacobs
Livingbridge



Matt Legg
Bridgepoint



Ewan Mackinnon
Maven Capital Partners



James Marshall
LDC



Mo Merali
Grant Thornton



Andrew Priest
Inflexion



All companies recognised in 2023

National Winners

Early stage



Scale-up



Medium



Large



Recognised Companies

APEM Group



Medik8[®]



National Winners

Early stage

Liftango (Supported by Maven Capital Partners)

Scale-up

Crisp, a Kroll business (Supported by Baird Capital)

Medium

Times Higher Education (Supported by Inflexion)

Large

loveholidays (Supported by Livingbridge)



Liftango

Scotland Awards

Early stage



- 📍 Edinburgh
- £ Supported by Maven Capital Partners

Liftango provides corporate mobility and public transport platforms that help organisations to provide a more sustainable transport experience. Founded by Kevin Orr and Trystan Eeles in 2015 and with operations across Europe, Asia, and North America, Liftango is seeing the adoption of its technology help cities, councils, and operators achieve their Net Zero CO2 targets. Liftango's technology powers some of the most successful global corporate programmes, with solutions used to monitor, measure and reduce vital Scope 3 emissions and has been implemented by several Fortune 500 companies to achieve their sustainability strategies.

In January 2022, Maven Capital Partners UK LLP invested £4.2m into Liftango as they recognised Liftango's use of algorithms, derived from the carpooling concept, gave them a unique market position relative to competitors, guaranteeing seats to clients, a model not easy to replicate. Data-driven models and simulations based on KPIs have further helped Liftango to gain market share in North America and continued expansion into Europe. Their international expansion has been a key driver for growth and the investment has further been deployed to improve Liftango's client service offering, securing clients such as Nike, Walmart, Tesla and Amazon, which tripled Liftango's revenue. The increased revenue will help to progress the organisation's expansion plans to emerging market territories such as the Middle East and South America.



Learn more in our
Vision 2023 video

National Winner



Liftango

Scotland Awards

Early stage



Judges' comments:

The judges recognised Liftango as highly innovative, with their transport system reimaging public transport, adapting to real-time passenger demand, and providing services to regions that previously had no public transport. Their smaller size enabled them to be flexible in their solutions and adapt quickly to market and client demands to secure growth. The judges felt that since its inception, Liftango has continued to innovate and develop products which are dynamic and offer tailored solutions for their clients to support their sustainability strategies.

“

Kevin Orr

Liftango CEO and Co-Founder said:

“Maven’s investment has helped Liftango grow our ARR x2.6 times YoY for the past 2 years. In addition, it enabled our team to successfully bring a new product to market and unlock partnerships with the likes of National Express.

Our market share has further increased in North America, where we are a dominant transport technology provider for the corporate sector, working with the likes of Amazon, Nike, Tesla, Walmart, etc. Alongside continued growth across APAC and the UK, we have launched projects in Brazil and the Middle East, with considerable growth forecasted in these regions.

Importantly, the Maven team, has helped Liftango mature, both in terms of growth capital but also in areas, such as, board and team-level structures and processes. In short, their support through tricky times has put Liftango in an excellent position for further growth in 2024 and beyond.”



Crisp, a Kroll business

Yorkshire & North East Awards



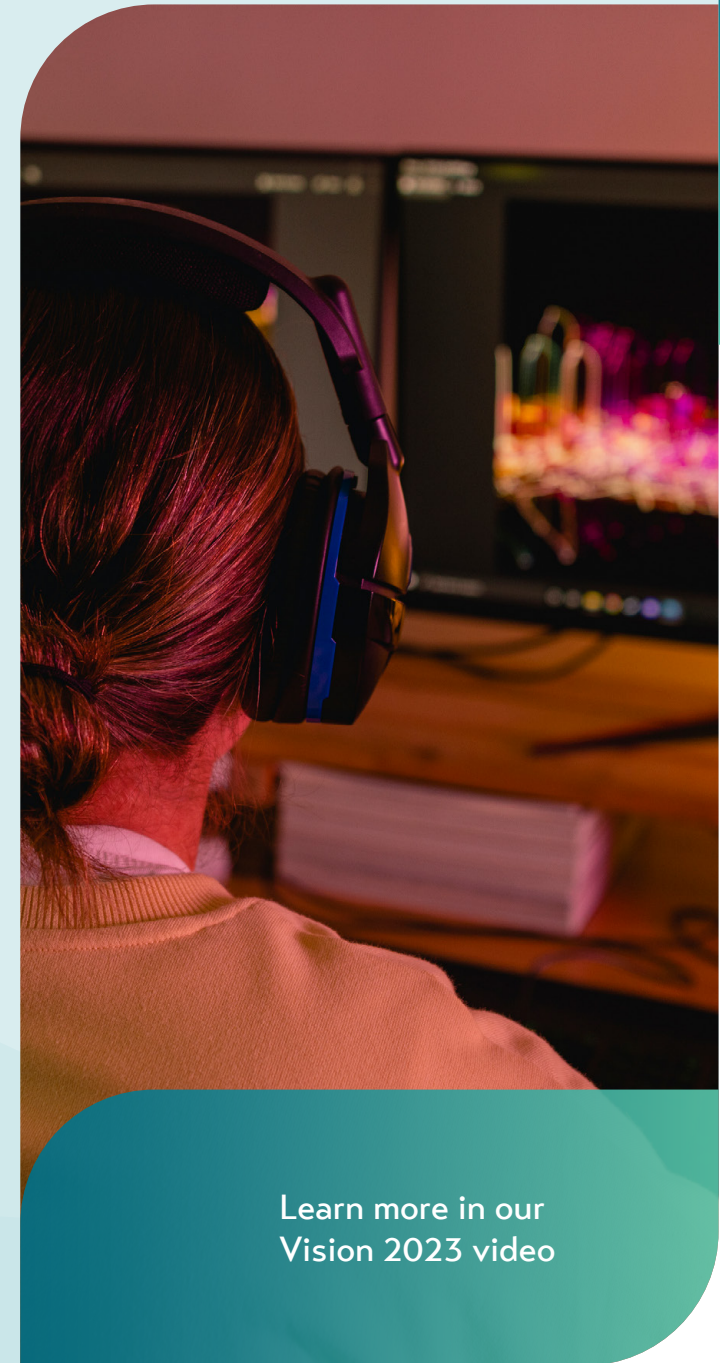
Leeds



Supported by Baird Capital

Crisp was established in 2005 to protect children and teenagers using online games, apps, and social media networks from child exploitation. The business has since expanded its Real-time Risk Intelligence capabilities to protect brands, assets, and people from reputational damage, security threats, and online harms. Crisp's vision is to create a digital world that is safe for everyone. Along with protecting more than \$6.5 trillion in combined market capitalisation for their clients, this leading expert in fast, actionable risk intelligence has contributed to the safe, daily online experiences of more than two billion users, covering an estimated 450 million children.

In the first half of 2022, Crisp were acquired by Kroll when Baird successfully exited after providing funding in 2018. As an accomplished standalone company, Crisp focused on detecting the risk signals embedded within digital chatter across the surface, deep, and dark web. Kroll recognised the value of 18 years of investment in knowledge building and training AI combined with a growing market demand for such services. Following the acquisition, Crisp, now a Kroll business, is able to combine its market-leading risk detection with Kroll's world-class risk advisory to deliver a full suite of integrated risk intelligence capabilities to their clients, including risk prevention, detection, response, and insight services. This includes comprehensive risk mitigation services throughout the five stages of a private equity firm's funding cycle.



Learn more in our
Vision 2023 video



Crisp, a Kroll business

Yorkshire & North East Awards

Scale-up

CRISP
A KROLL BUSINESS

Judges' comments:

The judges recognised Crisp, a Kroll business, as an ethical business from an impact point of view, further demonstrating strong financial returns, innovation, and a competitive edge that the judges felt met all the criteria of Vision's recognition themes. Crisp is also an active leader in the UK Safety Tech sector, which is one of the fastest growing parts of the UK tech industry. Crisp has well and truly put Yorkshire on the global tech map.

“

Andrew Burke

Crisp President said:

“The founders of Crisp recognised that the development of the business over 18 years, combined with the market demand for real-time risk intelligence, made for an appealing investment. The strategic acquisition by Kroll came at the right time to continue Crisp's mission and build upon the original investment from Baird in 2018.

“The strategic decision to offer a more holistic capability to serve a wider spectrum of clients, including private equity, from risk detection-only to a fully integrated risk intelligence solution, can now be realised with the investment and globally recognised advisory services of Kroll.”



Times Higher Education

London & South East Awards

Medium



Times
Higher
Education



London



Supported by Inflexion

Times Higher Education (THE) stands as one of the world's largest and most reputable providers of data insights, intelligence, and consultancy services catering to universities, corporations, not-for-profit organisations and governments globally. Originally part of the weekly UK newspaper, it has evolved to hold an impressive database with over 11 million performance data points on over 6,700 universities from 155 countries. Its content platforms attract 66 million visits from the global higher education community, with a growing audience of over 22 million parents and students. Since 2018, THE has undergone substantial growth, expanding from a 37-person team to a global business with 324 employees operating across five countries.

In 2019, Inflexion invested in THE, recognising its potential to become a powerhouse in the global higher education sector. Since then, THE has experienced robust growth, acquiring five businesses in the UK and the US, transforming from a UK-focused organisation to a global entity. Inflexion's support has been instrumental in optimising pricing, expanding customer bases, and completing strategic acquisitions, leading to a reported turnover of £40 million, growing at a remarkable 42% CAGR from FY20 to FY22. Post-investment, Inflexion supported THE's new proposition 'THE Student' assisting prospective international students during the pandemic. This initiative, renowned for its broad network of partnerships across the industry, including BMI Global Ed, led to the acquisition of BMI in September 2022, contributing to a £7.9m venture.



National Winner

Learn more in our
Vision 2023 video



Times Higher Education

London & South East Awards

Medium



Judges' comments:

Times Higher Education (THE) exemplifies the impact of private equity. The business has grown from strength to strength and has become one of the largest data intelligence providers. THE demonstrates resilience in the face of adversity, having overcome COVID-19 hardships and with continued expansion through virtual events. The judges acknowledged THE as a pioneer in their field and felt strongly about awarding them as part of Vision 2023.

“ Paul Howarth
THE's CEO said:

“Inflexion invested in THE in 2019 and has partnered with the business to deliver strong levels of growth as well as innovative and market-leading initiatives. THE has expanded its customer base from solely universities to a growing number of corporates, not-for-profits and governments with the acquisition of five companies since 2020.

“Alongside organic growth, THE, supported by Inflexion has developed a clear acquisition strategy, identifying businesses that extend THE's global reach, expand its existing product offering, bring new capabilities into the group and leverage THE best practice to roll out high-quality products and services to new audiences.

“Today, THE provides a platform of holistic services across the higher education ecosystem, including data and insights, consultancy, digital marketing, events, thought leadership and recruitment.”



loveholidays

London & South East Awards

Large



London

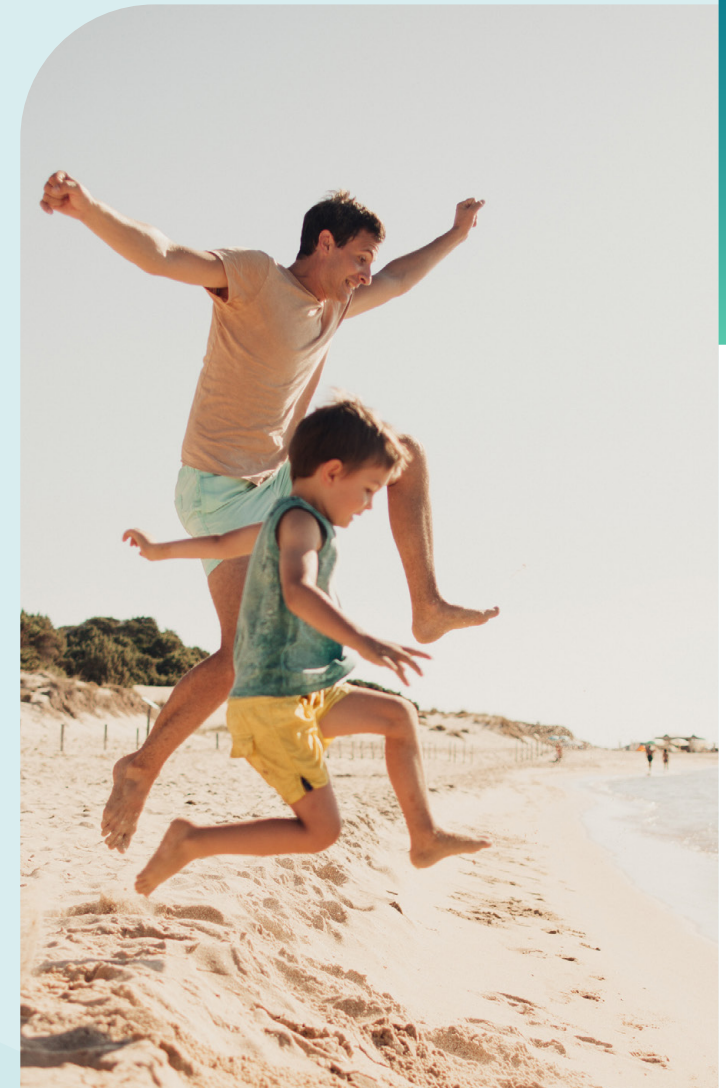


Supported by Livingbridge

Established in 2012, loveholidays (LH) has rapidly evolved into the UK's fastest-growing travel agent, disrupting the market with its best-in-class technology, expansive hotel and flight supply aggregation, and unparalleled customer experience. LH's mission is to make travel bookings easy and accessible for everyone, reducing the process to just six clicks. As an independent travel agent, LH boasts a comprehensive offering, combining 35,000 hotels with 99% of all available flights, resulting in an impressive 900 billion possible package holiday combinations.

Livingbridge's investment in LH, valued at £180 million in 2018, played a crucial role in propelling the company into its next phase of growth. LH's series A valuation in 2010 at £4.5 million indicates the significant expansion achieved post-Livingbridge involvement. The investment facilitated the professionalisation of LH, enabling the company to hire experienced leaders for international business expansion and invest in cutting-edge technology. This strategic partnership fuelled LH's journey to becoming the third largest ATOL holder in the UK, trailing only Jet2 and Tui.

LH's success during COVID-19 underscores its adaptability and innovation. The pandemic catalysed technological improvements, propelling LH to invest significantly in its platform and tech stack, to provide a fast and reliable website. The company's growth has been characterised by a focus on three key pillars: ease of booking, value, and choice. The company's expansion into new markets, including Ireland (22% of revenue) and Germany, has further solidified its status as a major player in the travel industry.



Learn more in our
Vision 2023 video



loveholidays

London & South East Awards

Large



Judges' comments:

The judges felt that loveholidays overdelivered against the four pillars of Vision 2023; ESG, growth, innovation and competitiveness. Over the past decade, loveholidays has grown from an independent travel agent to becoming the third largest ATOL holder in the UK, once partnered with Livingbridge. Their strategic partnership with Livingbridge bolstered their investment in technology, improving the functionality of their website and the consumers' journey to booking travel arrangements.

“

Donat Rétif

loveholidays CEO said:

“loveholidays had achieved significant growth prior to private equity investment, launching in the Irish market in 2016 and featuring twice on The Times Fast Track, before leading the Profit Track list in 2019. With ambitions to scale the business further, Livingbridge came on board to support and accelerate our next phase of growth.

“Since then, we've invested in our platform to make it the fastest and most flexible on the market, diversified our product offering and launched in Germany, with ambitions to expand further in the coming years to become Europe's most-loved online package holiday provider.”



Recognised Companies

Yorkshire & North East

Cutwel (Supported by NorthEdge)

iamproperty (Supported by LDC)

Northern Ireland

Bob & Berts (Supported by BGF)

Midlands & East

Precision Micro (Supported by LDC)

Upperton Pharma Solutions (Supported by Inflexion)

North West

APEM Group (Supported by WestBridge)

Findel (Supported by Endless)

Focus Group (Supported by Bowmark Capital)

London & South East

Matrix (Supported by Bridgepoint)

Medik8 (Supported by Inflexion)



Cutwel

Yorkshire & North East Awards

Winner



📍 Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire

£ Supported by NorthEdge

As a traditional family run business, Cutwel was founded in 1996 and is a specialist distributor of engineering cutting tools and machine tool accessories, exclusively representing several leading global manufacturers. The firm operates from its purpose-built, 24,000 sq ft distribution facility in Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire. Cutwel is a trusted supplier to over 12,000 precision engineering end users in the UK. NorthEdge recognised the potential for growth and invested in Cutwel in 2018 to assist in scaling the business by investing in its management and sales team, recruitment, and training.

The judges recognised Cutwel as a great private equity story. The business has been well transitioned from family ownership to an incentivised management team. Cutwel demonstrates a good growth story, and it stands out in terms of competitiveness, having survived the COVID crisis where others did not. The business invested in digital platforms and tools to drive growth, while competitors are still following the traditional direct sales approach with resources being deployed less effectively, which impacts the ability to scale and is not a model for sustainability of the environment.

“ Adam Gillard
Cutwel CEO said:

“The investment by and management support of NorthEdge has helped to continue our vision for growth and support of the local community, with vigour. We constantly seek to add value to our customer service and our business is a simple model, but we make every effort to deliver improvements each time. Our success is based on the collaboration of our teams working together and our people will always be the core of what we do.”



iamproperty

Yorkshire & North East Awards



Winner



📍 Newcastle upon Tyne

£ Supported by LDC

iamproperty Group is the UK's largest residential auction service, and leading provider of Estate Agency solutions, founded by Jamie Cooke and Ben Ridgway in 2009. The group helps more than 5,300 estate agency branches across the UK to accelerate their success. Since LDC's investment, the group has invested in an academy rotation programme for employees, acquired SDL Auctions' portfolio of estate agency partners and VTUK (developer of Openview, a cloud-based software platform), launched iamproperty movebutler and rolled out services to household brands such as Connells and Countrywide.

The judges recognised iamproperty last year as part of Vision 2022. However, since then the firm has accelerated growth, increased revenues by 45% and doubled its headcount, so the judges felt strongly about awarding them again. The judges acknowledged iamproperty as a great example of continued innovation, significant growth and value add in a highly competitive market.

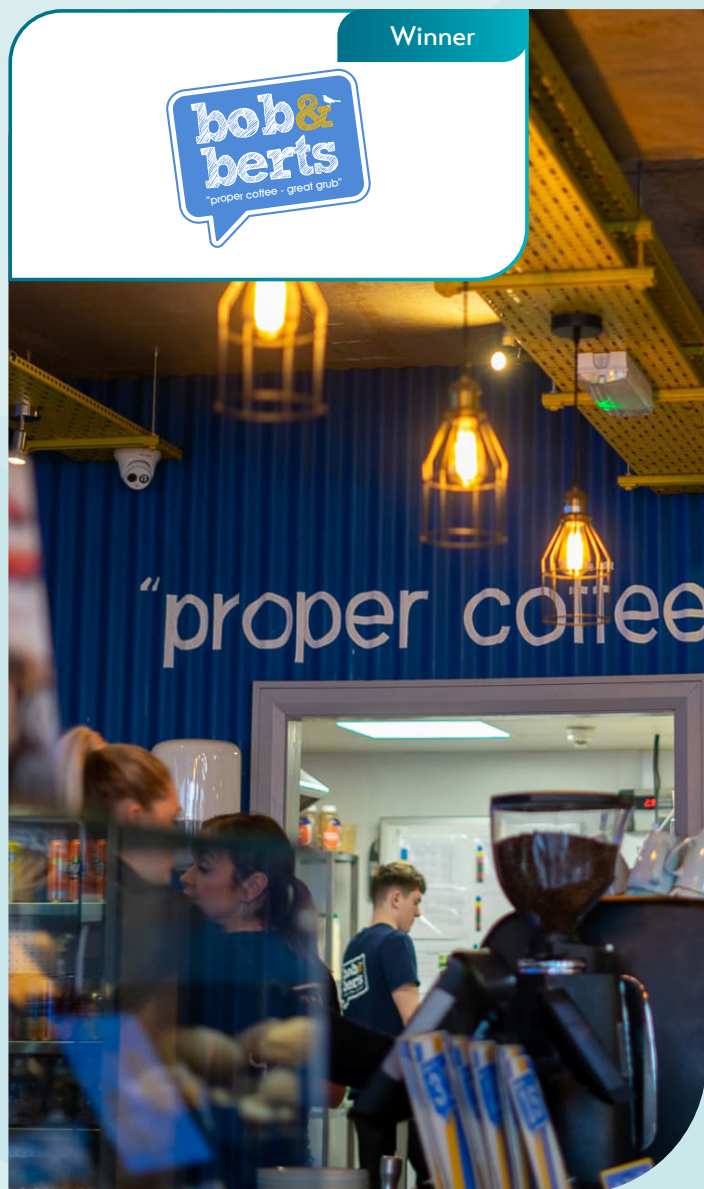
“ **Ben Ridgway**
iamproperty Founder said:

“The investment has enabled us to continue to grow at great scale and pace. Having this investment has allowed us to alter our attitude to risk, to take decisions that might not have been taken were we not guided by the management expertise of LDC. As pioneers of the Modern Method of Auction and the UK's first sales progression and onboarding platform for the whole residential property market, we remain ambitious to retain that leadership.”



Bob & Berts

Northern Ireland Awards



📍 Ballymena, County Antrim

£ Supported by BGF

Bob & Berts is a chain of coffee shops that was established in 2013 by Colin McClean and David Ferguson with the opening of their first store in Portstewart. 2023 marks 10 years in business since the first store opening and as a landmark year, Bob & Berts expect to open their 30th store. The company differentiates itself from a crowded marketplace through its 'made to order' fresh food offering, and by the rustic and family friendly atmosphere in its stores. The company obtained investment from BGF in 2017 to accelerate growth plans and expand into the new markets of Scotland and England.

The judges recognised Bob & Berts as a real Northern Ireland success story in a crowded and challenging market that continues to demonstrate impressive growth whilst remaining true to the values of supporting community, family, and its staff. The judging panel praised the growth that has been achieved especially during the COVID pandemic and believes that the business tells a value driven story from an impact point of view given its strong focus on local communities.

“

David Ferguson

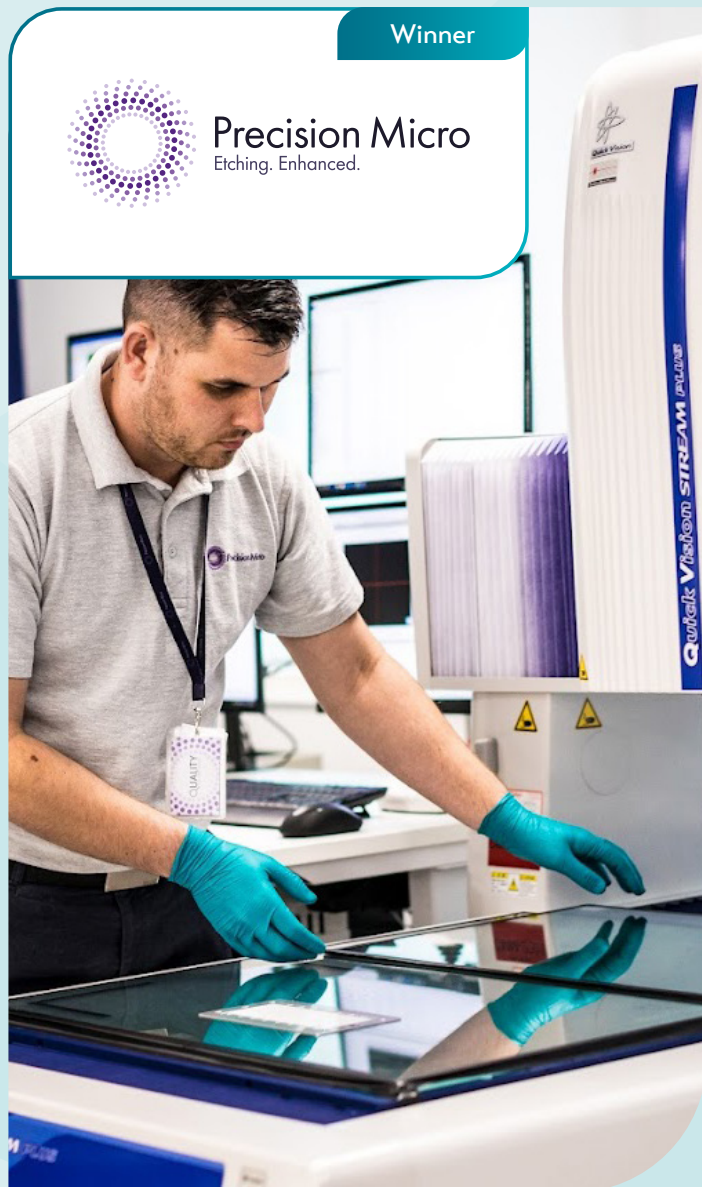
Bob & Berts Co-CEO said:

“Bob & Berts was established with the clear objective of offering something new and fresh for local communities in what was becoming a crowded coffee market. The investment by BGF has helped to accelerate our growth based on our original vision. Having this investment has allowed us to expand into new regions as well as develop our offer and adapt through investment in technology and a strong management team.”



Precision Micro

Midlands & East Awards



- 📍 Birmingham
- £ Supported by LDC

Precision Micro was founded in 1962 and is a leading provider of high-precision components using photochemical etching, a state-of-the-art manufacturing process that uses chemistry to cut sheet metals without the limitations of conventional stamping or laser cutting. With a global reach, they serve leading names across high-tech industries, exporting over 60 million components to 30+ countries, which contributes to over 75% of their revenue, versus a UK manufacturing average of 45%. Their active involvement in supporting Net Zero technology spans hydrogen generation and storage, carbon capture, renewable energy, hydrogen drivetrains, electric vehicles and more. LDC's support has enhanced Precision Micro's ambitions to increase automation and has helped realise market opportunities for growth and ESG commitments.

The judges recognised Precision Micro's exceptional performance against the recognition themes of ESG and innovation. LDC's expertise and funding drove a rapid increase in automation, driving both huge returns in operational efficiency, and a reduction of waste enabling Precision Micro to fast-track their ESG commitments. The recent additional investment from LDC is testament to a business that will no doubt experience sustainable and continued growth.



Upperton Pharma Solutions

Midlands & East Awards

Winner



- 📍 Nottingham
- £ Supported by Inflexion

Founded in 1999, Upperton is a Contract Development and Manufacturing organisation supporting the development and clinical manufacturing of non-sterile oral, nasal and pulmonary dosages for small to mid-sized pharmaceutical clients. Upperton utilises its expertise to develop a wide range of dosage formats for evaluation in clinical trials and given the risk of drug failure in early clinical trial phases, Upperton's work differentiates between success and failure for their Pharma and Biotech clients. In April 2022, Inflexion's equity investment supported Upperton, to help the organisation to achieve ambitious growth plans and expansion into the US market.

The judges recognised Upperton's impressive growth and innovation. The management expertise and funding support provided by Inflexion has helped Upperton to rapidly accelerate its growth plans. The investment in the Trent Gateway platform provided a competitive advantage for Upperton to support their clients throughout the entire product development lifecycle, ensuring high client retention rates and impressive projected future returns.



Nikki Whitfield

Upperton CEO said:

"Partnering with Inflexion has provided us with the capital and support needed to rapidly grow the business in terms of people and expertise, as well as the design and build of our brand-new facility. Having Inflexion on board has opened business networks for us which has been invaluable. The real value the partnership has delivered though, is the unwavering support of the Management Team vision that has allowed us to accelerate the growth of Upperton and increase our customer offering."



APEM Group

North West Awards

Winner

APEM Group

📍 Manchester

£ Supported by WestBridge

APEM Group is a leading global environmental and geospatial consultancy providing expert advice to clients across a wide range of industries, including water, renewables, power and utilities, marine and ports, transport, construction and development. Since its founding in 1987, APEM's deep scientific and technical expertise, supplemented with a heritage of innovative solutions ensured progressive ecological and technological solutions for clients. As of 2022, the APEM Group employs over 500 people in 14 offices globally, with their emphasis on environmental, social responsibility and biodiversity work spanning six continents.

The judges recognised APEM as an organisation that has performed exceptionally well against all four of the key recognition themes of ESG, growth, innovation, and competitiveness. The continued development of scientific expertise and the provision of innovative solutions has clearly presented an attractive proposition to WestBridge and the future looks bright for APEM and their partnership with WestBridge.

“ Leah McGimpsey
APEM Group CEO said:

“The investment from WestBridge has enabled APEM to continue on, and accelerate, our growth journey. The expertise of the team at WestBridge has provided support and guidance to the APEM Leadership Team since the MBO in 2019, enabling APEM to grow organically, expand internationally and integrate a series of strategic acquisitions into the Group.”



Findel

North West Awards



- 📍 Hyde, Cheshire
- £ Supported by Endless

Findel is a leading eCommerce educational resources supplier to schools and nurseries across the UK and internationally. Founded in 1817 and with 200 years of expertise, Findel is trusted by the educational communities, providing a one-stop shop for a wide range of products including curricular, early years, everyday essentials, facilities, sports, science, arts & crafts, furniture and more. Findel is the corporate umbrella for several trading brands including Hope, GLS, Davies Sports, Philip Harris and Scandiborn, each targeting different customer groups and specialisms. Findel employs around 330 people and has evolved into one of the leading suppliers to the UK and international schools and nurseries sectors.

The judges recognised that Findel has performed exceptionally well against the Vision themes of ESG and growth. The investment from Endless enabled greater strategic focus for Findel to reach its growth potential and the addition of their expertise facilitated the impressive rise in sales from 40% to 80%. Now a market leader, Findel is set to grow further whilst building on their already impressive ESG credentials.

“ **Chris Mahady**
Findel CEO said:

"Prior to the investment from Endless, we were part of Studio Retail PLC, who looked upon Findel as a low profit-making business. This meant that we received little support or investment. We knew the heritage and brand equity of Findel provided a foundation for a business that could continue to grow with the backing of great investors. From the day we were acquired by Endless we have never looked back and have now become the market leader with a very exciting future ahead."



Focus Group

London & South East Awards



- 📍 Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex
- £ Supported by Bowmark Capital

Focus Group is a leading provider of digital services encompassing business phone systems, IT management and cybersecurity, operating within the IT, telecoms, and connectivity sectors. With over 900 employees across the UK and numerous acquisitions including &Partners, Zest4, and EVAD, Focus has expanded its service offerings, achieving impressive FY22 sales growth of approximately 36%. Bowmark Capital's strategic investment supported Focus in adopting an aggressive acquisition strategy to supplement their organic growth with a buy-and-build strategy, with a focus on cultural alignment.

The judges recognised Focus Group's prioritisation of a "people-first" ideology, evident in its culture-led acquisitions that ensure alignment with company values. Vertical evolution through integrated sales teams and tailored customer solutions distinguishes Focus in the industry. The transition from founder-led to executive leadership reflects Focus's commitment to creating a transparent, accountable, and exemplary workplace.

“ **Barney Taylor**
Focus Group CEO said:

"Bowmark have enabled Focus Group to realise our ambitious growth objectives through our partnership together – we are so pleased to be recognised alongside them for this award."



Matrix

London & South East Awards



📍 Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

£ Supported by Bridgepoint

Matrix is a leading workforce management technology platform, facilitating connections between employers, suppliers, and workers to streamline talent acquisition and management. The company offers a suite of services including Matrix Workforce, Milestone, Talent Pool, and more, serving over 1,000 clients with 100,000 workers. Historically focused on the public sector, Matrix's ambitions in 2019 aimed at diversifying its market presence and enhancing its technology platform. Bridgepoint's investment in 2020 catalysed a 28% revenue CAGR, market sector balancing, and service portfolio expansion, transforming Matrix into a 3-sided marketplace.

The judges recognised that despite challenges including COVID-19, Matrix maintains a positive outlook and a commitment to furthering its impact on communities while setting ambitious goals for the future. The company's Social Value team collaborates on initiatives fostering diversity, gender equality, and inclusion, exemplifying dedication to societal impact and making Matrix a worthy winner of Vision 2023: Leaders Driving Growth.



Medik8

London & South East Awards

Winner

Medik8®



- 📍 Elstree, Herts
- £ Supported by Inflexion

Medik8 is a rapidly growing premium skincare brand, that has positioned itself as a leader in science-based anti-ageing products. Medik8 has successfully expanded its online and retail presence, showcasing a commitment to ethical manufacturing and sustainability. Medik8's success is driven by strong consumer loyalty, with repeat purchase rates exceeding 40% and a robust route to market through distributors in 18 global markets, international e-tailers, and prestigious retailers like CultBeauty and SpaceNK. In 2021, Inflexion invested in Pangaea Laboratories, the owner of Medik8, recognising the brand's potential for global growth and its unique position in the skincare market.

The judges recognised Medik8 as a standout winner in terms of ESG considerations, growth, and overall success in the skincare industry. As Medik8 plans to double its R&D spend and emphasises an engaged, diverse team, along with a dedication to DEI and product innovation, it demonstrates a holistic approach. This is expected to ensure continued growth and profitability and should continue to deliver a positive impact on consumers.

“ **Simon Coble**
Medik8 CEO said:

"With the ambition of doubling the business in the following 3 years, inflexion's industry contacts, knowledge and expertise have really supported explosive growth for the brand alongside significant investments in people, internal data systems, machinery, and facilities. This culminated in the opening of our huge Innovation Centre in summer 2022: more than tripling capacity for production, despatch and R&D. We look forward to continued brand success and meeting our lofty ambitions with Inflexion's backing."



Ones To Watch

Yorkshire & North East

Panintelligence (Supported by YFM Equity Partners)

North West

Back 2 Work Group (Supported by Palatine Private Equity)

London & South East

Bridewell (Supported by Growth Capital Partners)

Kubrick Group (Supported by Bowmark Capital)



Panintelligence

Yorkshire & North East Awards



- 📍 Leeds
- £ Supported by YFM Equity Partners

Panintelligence started out as a piece of technology spun out of PanCredit in 2014 as part of an MBO backed by Shackleton Ventures, and has become a fast growing provider of Business Intelligence and Predictive Analytics software to software vendors.

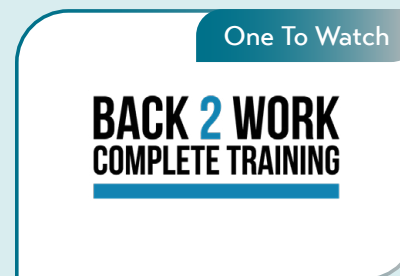
Panintelligence’s data visualisation dashboards allow users to see key information in visually attractive, interactive graphs and charts, providing actionable insights in real-time and allowing timely interventions.

Following the YFM investment, Panintelligence pivoted its business model to the cloud despite having achieved its success historically with an on-premise software product and sales model. Panintelligence reacted to the growing adoption of cloud-based software offerings by developing a category-defining embedded analytics platform, which outperforms generic tools from Microsoft, Amazon and Google.

To encourage D&I within the tech sector, Panintelligence founded ‘No Code Lab’ in 2020, a not-for-profit initiative helping people without coding skills to create application software and CEO Zandra Moore founded ‘Lean in Leeds’ a community of 900+ professional women focused on improving the quality of life and opportunities for women and girls.

Back 2 Work Group

North West Awards



- 📍 Manchester
- £ Supported by Palatine Private Equity

Back 2 Work Group (“B2W”) is a national skills and training provider predominantly focused on delivering funded Pre-Employment Training (PET), with diversification since investment into apprenticeships and longer-term unemployment support.

Working with large employers and job centres, the group designs high quality training targeted at upskilling and supporting unemployed people to be ready to win jobs and move into paid employment, focusing where possible on upskilling workers beyond the minimum wage poverty trap and into better paid careers.

B2W has remained competitive against a challenging macroeconomic backdrop through the strength and flexibility of its management team alongside a continued focus on long-term strategic thinking.

The acquisition of Just IT Training in June 2022, added a substantial IT and digital apprenticeship and skills bootcamp training provision to the group and created an excellent learner pathway for those completing B2W’s Pre-Apprenticeship Training programmes.



Bridewell

London & South East Awards



-  London
-  Supported by Growth Capital Partners

Bridewell is a leading cyber security services company that specialises in protecting and transforming critical business functions for some of the world's most trusted organisations. Bridewell's specialists are highly accredited by major industry bodies and have extensive experience delivering services across cyber security, managed security, penetration testing, and data privacy.



Bridewell runs a 24/7 Security Operations Centre (SOC) from the UK and has expanded into the US to further support global clients. Since being founded in 2013, Bridewell has grown rapidly and is now one of the largest cyber security providers in the UK, winning contracts from firms such as BAE Systems, EY, and NCC.

Bridewell was the first carbon negative cyber services company in 2021, and they have continued this trend through 2022 and 2023. Bridewell monitors energy and carbon consumption and off-sets all carbon usage of their staff plus their families for the whole business.

Kubrick Group

London & South East Awards



-  London
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Kubrick is a unique type of next-generation technology consultancy that helps organisations implement digital and data transformations and enrich their team capabilities.

Kubrick is at the forefront of tackling the digital skills shortage, creating a high quality, diverse workforce by hiring, training and deploying non-technical graduates in data, AI and cloud engineering roles. To date, Kubrick trained over 1500 graduates and junior professionals, with approximately 2x female participation compared to industry averages and a strong diversity mix beyond gender. They have worked with large organisations in the UK and USA, including leading household names like AstraZeneca, JP Morgan, Aviva, GlaxoSmithKline, Shell, Jaguar Land Rover, P&G, Sainsburys, and Genomics England.

Fundamental to Kubrick's growth from inception in 2016 was executing tightly to a clear proposition addressing a genuine client problem of lacking talent in next generation technology skills, which is holding organisations back.





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