

## Press Release

17 April 2008

### Taylor Walton LLP Continues to Strengthen its Position in the UK M&A Mid-Market

Taylor Walton LLP, with offices in Luton, Harpenden and St Albans has advised Armstrong Consultants Limited on its sale to Access Technology Group.

Access Technology Group, a leading business and accounting software supplier, has completed the purchase of Armstrong Consultants Limited, one of its leading resellers and developers, in a deal that will consolidate Access' position as a leading mid-market business and accounting software supplier. The acquisition of Armstrong Consultants Limited for an undisclosed sum, brings Access Group close to its £30 million turnover target more than a year earlier than planned.

Taylor Walton LLP provided legal advice to Armstrong Consultants Limited during the sale. Corporate partner, Clive Borthwick, led the Taylor Walton team, assisted by Chris Brazier in the Corporate department. Employment partner, Heather Cowley and senior assistant solicitor, Keely Rushmore, assisted with the employment aspects of the sale with commercial property expertise provided by assistant solicitor, Sally Jackson.

The merger of Access Technology Group and Armstrong Consultants Limited brings together two successful businesses to offer an improved specialist supplier service. Armstrong Consultants has worked closely with Access for a number of years and has grown into an award winning software supplier. For the last two years, Armstrong has been listed in the top twenty of the Sunday Times list of "Best Small Companies To Work For".

Chris Bayne, Managing Director of Armstrong Consultants Limited commented:

*"Taylor Walton provided expertise and guidance throughout the sale process and ensured that our close working relationship with Access was reflected in their discussions and negotiations with Birketts LLP, who acted for the buyer. The ability of Clive Borthwick and his team to guide us through the transaction from start to finish in a professional and informative manner was reassuring to the company and ultimately led to a very successful outcome for all parties".*

Corporate partner Clive Borthwick commented:

*"This was a transaction of major importance to our clients, the Armstrong Consultants' shareholders and to Access that had to progress at a demanding pace but achieved its target date on time".*

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Taylor Walton LLP is a 22 partner firm with approaching 200 staff in three offices strategically located close to but not in London.

Taylor Walton is highly rated by leading independent legal directory *The Legal 500* which ranks a number of its teams in the top division of South East firms, and quotes clients as describing the firm as “commercial, pragmatic and quick”.

More information:

Clive Borthwick

Partner

Tel. 01582 390447

Email. [clive.borthwick@taylorwalton.co.uk](mailto:clive.borthwick@taylorwalton.co.uk)

Ian Riches

Business Development Manager

Tel. 01582 731161

Email. [ian.riches@taylorwalton.co.uk](mailto:ian.riches@taylorwalton.co.uk)