

## **Quadriga Capital Funds to sell leading education group Aspire Education to EMZ Partners**

**Frankfurt, 19 December 2022** – Quadriga Capital Funds, Jersey ("Quadriga Capital"), legacy shareholders and the management of Aspire Education Group ("Aspire" or "the Company") have entered into an agreement to sell the Company to EMZ Partners ("EMZ"). Aspire's management will re-invest in the Company as part of the transaction. The parties have agreed not to disclose financial details of the transaction.

Based in Vienna, Aspire is the leading platform for professional qualification and training in the DACH region and the largest private sector education provider in Austria with 1,200 employees in eight companies and 100,000 learners per year. The Aspire platform, consisting of the brands ibis acam, ETC, brainymotion, ARS, KAOS, Stepin, aspidoo and fast lane, offers its customers a wide range of services, from software & IT, legal, compliance, tax and finance to preparing apprentices and jobseekers for starting or re-entering the workforce. Aspire, with its targeted learning development resources, also helps to improve employment prospects for individuals, thereby promoting greater economic and social mobility. The Aspire Group invested in online and digital capabilities early on and Aspire customers can access the service offering either on-site, hybrid or online.

Under Quadriga Capital's ownership, Aspire has invested in expanding its digital learning tools and in new, innovative formats such as Hire-Train-Deploy to address the shortage of skilled labour, and has significantly expanded its geographic footprint and product range through six strategic acquisitions since 2018. Most recently, Aspire acquired the German IT training provider brainymotion and now the group generates revenues of around €100 million. With EMZ, Aspire now intends to continue on this growth path.

Philipp Jacobi, Managing Partner of Quadriga Capital Eigenkapitalberatung GmbH, said: "We would like to thank the entire Aspire team for their excellent work and dedication over the past years. Particularly noteworthy is the strong commitment to environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, which has made Aspire a frontrunner in this area. The performance of the entire team has been crucial to Aspire's growth and the transformation into one of the leading education groups in the German-speaking region. We wish the management team every success in further pursuing the growth path they have embarked on in the coming years."

Johannes Lampert and Udo Schelkes, co-CEOs of Aspire, added: "We would like to thank Quadriga Capital for the very trustful cooperation. Over the past years, we have jointly laid the groundwork for Aspire's long-term growth. This transaction now forms the basis for the further successful implementation of our future vision for Aspire with organic growth through innovative products as well as strategic acquisitions and partnerships."



The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2023 and is subject to clearance by the anti-trust authorities.

***About Quadriga Capital***

*Quadriga Capital is a leading equity partner for medium-sized companies in the German-speaking region and neighbouring countries. Investors are institutional investors such as pension funds, banks, insurance companies and family offices from Europe, Asia and the US. Growth-oriented companies in the healthcare, tech-enabled services and smart industries sectors are the focus of the investment activities. Quadriga Capital has invested in more than 40 companies in recent years, which in turn have made over 120 follow-on acquisitions. Entrepreneurial management teams are supported by a broad range of experience and expertise as well as an international industrial network.*

*In 2021, Quadriga Capital became one of the first private equity firms in its markets to become a signatory of the "Operating Principles for Impact Management" of the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN). The sixth Quadriga Capital Fund qualifies as an "Article 8+ Fund" within the meaning of the sustainability-related disclosure requirements of the EU taxonomy in the financial services sector ("SFDR"). This is a consistent continuation of the fully integrated ESG approach that Quadriga Capital has pursued since 2007 and which is viewed as exemplary and has received several awards at the European level.*

*Quadriga Capital is advised by Quadriga Capital Eigenkapitalberatung GmbH, Frankfurt am Main.*

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