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UK: Epta has announced the merger of its UK-based cabinet manufacturing subsidiary, George Barker, and its contracting and service and maintenance business, Cold Service, into one company.

From January 1, the merged company will operate under a new name, Epta UK Ltd.

Established in 1928, George Barker was originally acquired by the Milan-based commercial refrigeration company in 1999. Cold Service, a Hampshire-based specialists in the design, installation and maintenance of turnkey refrigeration and air conditioning systems, was acquired by Epta in 2014.

In a statement, Epta said: "Epta continue to demonstrate their commitment and dedication to the UK market, despite recent challenges including the Covid-19 pandemic. The announcement of a structural change that will allow Epta George Barker and Epta Cold Service to operate under one legal entity, Epta UK Limited, is a perfect example of this. This change is set to drive a strong future for Epta, aligning both organisations in all UK operations whilst reinforcing the identity of Epta UK."