

EPTA completes dual commercial refrigeration acquisitions

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Commercial refrigeration specialist says the completion of deals for a joint venture agreement and a separate business acquisition has capped off a strong year of expansion in Europe

EPTA has announced it has completed two acquisitions that will significantly strengthen its European capabilities for providing refrigeration and cooling services.

The company said it has now obtained a majority stake in a joint venture with Viessmann to provide commercial refrigeration solutions across a number of Central and Northern European markets, along with also acquiring the refrigeration services and professional air-conditioning business of HEIFO in Germany.

Marco Nocivelli, president and chief executive officer with Epta, said that the double acquisition reflected a strong year of growth for the organisation as it looks to expand its operations as a provider of greener solutions. He said: "The closing of the two transactions marks a particularly significant moment for us, of development and consolidation in a crucially important region: we might leverage on new industrial and commercial synergies, enhancing our ability to be the one stop shop provider with a complete offer of sustainable products and services and a capillary presence in North and Central Europe".

The company [announced earlier this year](#) that it would be taking a 70 per cent stake in a joint venture known as Viessmann Refrigeration Solutions (VRS). The organisation would combine both EPTA and Viessmann's commercial refrigeration businesses in Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway and the Baltics with the aim to offer a wider and more comprehensive range of products.

EPTA noted that its business operated in Western and Southern Europe, as well as other regions such as Latin America, the US and the Asia Pacific market were not impacted by the joint venture agreement. The Viessman Group would also continue to provide its technologies outside of the markets in the deal. A statement on the transaction said: "The transaction does not include VRS's clean and cold room solutions activities."

Along with the joint venture agreement with Viessmann, EPTA said it would be further strengthened by obtaining the refrigeration activities of Germany-based HEIFO. The transaction will see EPTA acquiring refrigeration services and professional air-conditioning solutions from the group. HEIFO will retain its Professional Food Solutions business under the terms of the completed deal.