



Cold Service Group bought by Epta

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Hampshire-based Cold Service Group, which specialises in the design, installation and maintenance of refrigeration and air conditioning systems, has been acquired by Epta.

This is Epta's second acquisition of a UK business, having acquired Yorkshire-based George Barker in 1999.

The head office of Cold Service is in Ringwood, Hampshire, and the company has been working with retailers and other commercial refrigeration customers for more than six decades.

Cold Service is organised in four divisions (commercial, local, central and distribution) and has contracts with clients including Harrods, Fortnum & Mason, Greggs, Morrisons, One-Stop and Pret a Manger.

"Both parties strongly sought this merger, built on a common value system centred on people, high-quality service and long-term development plans," said Cold Service chairman Peter Grimes. "The strength of a company like Epta represents an important competitive advantage for us, complementing our range and expanding our market share."

Sergio Chiostri, chairman and managing director of Epta, added: "This agreement expands our portfolio and aims to optimise the resources used, in the frame of an expansion plan that will integrate the skills and technological know-how of our two companies."

The financial value of the deal was not disclosed.

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