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Epta boosts UK refrigeration business

AN Italian firm has boosted its UK refrigeration business by making a key acquisition.

Epta, which supplies equipment and services for commercial refrigeration, has bought Cold Service Group for an undisclosed sum.

Based in Hampshire, Cold Service Group specialises in the design, installation and maintenance of refrigeration and air conditioning systems. In 1999, Epta acquired George Barker in Bradford, a supplier involved in the design and production of refrigerated cabinets, together with an established contracting and service and maintenance business.

Sergio Chiostrì, the chairman and managing director of Epta, said: "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."

Richard Moran and Rachel Dean from the corporate team at Leeds law firm Clarion, advised Epta Service UK. BDO in Leeds provided financial due diligence.

Ms Dean said: "Having worked with George Barker for a number of years, this is great news for the continuing success of this Yorkshire business, providing synergies and strengthening the group's position in the UK market."

George Barker employs 450 people across the UK

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