

G7 DATA AND CHILIT UNITE, A NEW AGILE IT SERVICE PROVIDER IS FORMED

G7 Data and Chilit unite their forces as a fund managed by private equity company Sentica Partners acquires majority stakes in both companies. A new significant IT service provider is formed to the Finnish ICT sector. The new company aims to serve a broader customer base with a wide scope of ICT solutions and services. The service offerings and the customer oriented service approach of the two companies complement each other and enable customers a wide selection of IT solutions and services through one service provider. Key personnel of G7 Data and Chilit continue as minority shareholders of the new company.

Chilit Oy and G7 Data Oy have operated in the Finnish ICT sector for years. Both companies have grown exceptionally compared to the industry and during the first half of 2016 both experienced double digit growth. Chilit's knowhow and services have concentrated more on outsourcing services and software licence management. G7 Data has focused more on workstation technology, mobile and printing services. Both companies have knowhow in ICT infra and cloud based services as well as in various IT projects. The core in both companies' operations has been in customer orientation and service, which has resulted in excellent customer satisfaction.

The new company's sales are expected to exceed €30 million and the company employs some 60 professionals in Helsinki region as well as in Turku. The CEO of G7 Data, Kimmo Juuti has been assigned as the CEO of the new company. He has extensive experience from the sector. Mr. Juuti describes the new company: "Both companies have succeeded in the competitive market by investing in customer service and focusing on their core competencies. By capitalizing on both companies' special knowledge, we are able to offer our customers an even broader service pallet with our current agile operation mode."

Personnel will have a significant role in securing the new entity's future success. Thus, employees are strongly involved in building the new company. A name competition determining the new company's name, which will be released next fall, has been launched for personnel.

Chilit's CEO Timo Lipiäinen comments the merger: "We see this as an excellent opportunity to develop and grow. Our customers appreciate our knowhow as well as our peppery and customer oriented service attitude. By combining G7 Data's knowledge and offering with ours, we enable an improved service assortment for our customers. For personnel, this is an incredible chance to become part of a larger organization. The merger will open up also new interesting career paths."

"The industry outlook is favorable – digitalization, accelerating development of IT solutions and continuous changes in information security, force companies to invest in IT. G7 Data and Chilit complement each other and together form an entity, which offers clients even better and more comprehensive service in various IT segments. We target strong growth both organically and through acquisitions, states Sentica Partners' partner Marjatta Rytömaa.

Additional information:

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Chilit Oy was founded in 2010 for the love of IT and customer service. We produce IT services, which others do not know how to, do not have the time or do not have the courage to produce. We offer a comprehensive selection of IT services from workstations to data centers. We have 40 peppery professionals in Espoo and Turku. The company's sales were 14.5 million in 2015. Chilit is owned by its employees. www.chilit.fi

G7 Data Oy is an agile Finnish ICT company solving clients' challenges by offering IT solutions and expertise services. Instead of short-sighted solutions, we look further ahead and offer solutions, which truly save our customers' resources and support their operations in the long term. G7 Data is owned by its employees and employs 25 professionals. The company's sales were €15 million in 2015. www.G7Data.fi

Sentica Partners Oy is an independent private equity company focusing on acquiring and developing Finnish small and mid-sized companies. The funds under Sentica's management amount to some €300 million with fund investors consisting of Finnish institutional investors and high quality European fund of funds. www.sentica.fi