

PRESS RELEASE

BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON PAISNER ADVISES GAZPROM NEFT ON LAUNCHING JV WITH ZYFRA TO DEVELOP OIL AND GAS DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, formerly Goltsblat BLP in Russia, has completed its mandate for Gazprom Neft relating to its JV with Zyfra for developing a digital industrial platform and promoting new process solutions in the oil and gas sector.

The JV plans to launch a new digital production management platform designed for oil and gas companies as early as in 2021. The JV's digital novelties will focus on centralising operational management and creating AI-based digital twins.

The technology behind the JV is the ZIIoT (Industrial Internet of Things) Platform, Zyfra's digital oil refining services and Gazprom Neft's R&D products for oil and gas technological process control. Gazprom Neft will provide industrial expertise and access to Big Data and industrial sites for trying out and testing technology solutions. In turn, Zyfra will ensure the JV's products are promoted internationally, primarily on the South-East Asian and Latin American markets where the company is already quite visible. Sold licence implementation will be handled by the clients' servicing functions and system integrators, with approximately 100 specialists working on the JV's digital tasks.

The JV will be head-quartered in St Petersburg.

The BCLP Russia project team led by **Anton Sitnikov**, Partner, Head of Corporate / M&A (Russia), **Nikolay Kholshev**, Counsel, Corporate/M&A, and **Anton Nefedev**, Counsel, Head of IP in Technology, also included Associates **Ruslan Nurullaev**, Corporate/M&A, and **Egor Salmov**, Commercial, and was invaluablely supported by Counsel **Andrey Neminuschiy**, Antitrust & Competition, Associate **Artemiy Bondarev**, Banking & Finance, Junior Associates **Elena Naumova**, Corporate/M&A, and **Daniil Betuganov**, IP, and Paralegals **Alexey Perminov** and **Gleb Aleksandrov**.

Anton Sitnikov comments: *"We were delighted to be part of this complex and challenging project of great value for our client's strategic development. We have recently noted a surge in client demand for hi-tech and AI-related legal offerings so we would like to thank Gazprom Neft for the trust they placed in us and, on behalf of the entire team, to wish the new JV success and prosperity".*

For more detail, please see the JV participants' press-releases on [Gazprom Neft](#) and [Zyfra](#).

For more information, please contact:

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About Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP law firm was formed in 2018 as a result of one of the biggest transatlantic mergers in the history of the legal business: the merger between the leading international law firms Bryan Cave LLP (US) and Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP (UK), including its Russian practice Goltsblat BLP. Today, Bryan Cave Leighton

Paisner LLP is one of the biggest global law firms (among the top 50), uniting more than 1,400 lawyers in 31 offices in 11 countries. Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP provides comprehensive legal support for any largescale deals, projects and disputes in any jurisdiction, whenever and wherever clients might need it. Strong global practices and fully-integrated international teams in M&A, real estate, financial services and dispute resolution. The firm represents 40% of the Fortune 500, 30 of the world's top 50 banks (by revenue) and 12 of the world's biggest sovereign wealth funds.

About Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner Russia

The Russian practice of **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (formerly Goltsblat BLP in Russia)** is a well-established, stable team, one of the biggest on the Russian market; built up over more than 20 years, it is a recognised leader in Russia. The history of the BCLP Russian office includes the merger, in 2009, between one of the biggest teams on the Russian market, led by Andrey Goltsblat, and the leading UK law firm Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP). The Moscow office has more than 100 lawyers qualified under Russian, English and US law (State of New York). Five times winner of Law Firm of the Year in Russia since 2009, including Chambers Europe Awards 2010, 2014 and 2015; The Legal Business Awards (The Legal 500) 2010; The Lawyer European Awards 2014. Leading positions and profound Russian law expertise with the absolute majority of the practices in Russia recognised as market leaders / top-ranked by leading national and international rankings (The Legal 500, Chambers&Partners, Best Lawyers, Mergermarket, Pravo.ru-300, etc.). www.bclplaw.ru