

Press Release

BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON PAISNER ADVISES AVITO JOBS ON A USD 1.2 M INVESTMENT IN HR MESSENGER

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner has successfully advised Avito on a USD 1.2 m investment in HR Messenger, an automated staff recruitment and integration platform. This is the first deal of this magnitude involving chatbot design companies. HR Messenger will use the investment to develop its business and take on more staff.

The BCLP team was led by Vera Gorbacheva, Associate Director, Corporate / M&A, with invaluable input from Dimitri Antipin, Senior Associate & Solicitor, Ayta Aduchieva, Associate, Elena Naumova, Junior Associate, Gleb Aleksandrov and Mikhail Kuznetsov, both Paralegals.

The matter was supervised by Anton Sitnikov, Partner, Head of Corporate/M&A (Russia), who notes: "We are grateful to Avito for entrusting us with this job and allowing us to help with this first-of-a-kind investment in this business growth area. We sincerely wish both the entire Avito team and HR Messenger every success and prosperity".

Apart from the Avito mandate, 2021 saw BCLP Moscow advising clients on over ten PE and VC deals in various industries. We are delighted that the market puts its trust in our vast transactional expertise and experience of representing company founders, as well as strategic and financial, including institutional, investors and that we contribute to our clients' successful and dynamic business development.

Avito-Jobs is a technology-based, on-line platform for job seekers and recruiters.

Avito is the world's most visited classified ads market place, with 86 m active advertisements posted on its web-site in December 2021.

HR Messenger is a comprehensive service for handling routine HR tasks. It streamlines workflows using its own chatbot building technologies. Founded in Kazakhstan in 2018, the company reports having connected over 3 m job seekers with 90 companies in 2021..

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 (U.S.) 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 30 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