

press release

19 JULY 2010

Pritchard Englefield advised the Learning and Skills Network on its charitable merger with the National Extension College

Pritchard Englefield acted for education not-for-profit organisation Learning and Skills Network ("LSN") in its charitable merger with the National Extension College ("NEC") based in Cambridge, which provides its students with distance learning across the country. The merger was completed on 9 July 2010.

LSN brings with it to the merger 25 years of experience in education, whilst NEC has provided distance learning for almost 50 years. LSN has emphasised the increasing importance of distance learning, and this alliance will grant it new opportunities for students and staff on a broader range; NEC will likewise benefit from LSN's expertise in innovative and modern methods for provision of education.

The firmly-established, well-regarded NEC brand will remain within the newly merged organisation and the merged entity will seek further expansion into new markets whilst maintaining the courses previously offered. Both organisations have mentioned in press releases the importance of education being available to all, with particular attention paid to disadvantaged students.

Pritchard Englefield's team was led by Thilo Schneider, a Partner in the firm's Corporate & Commercial Department. Hewitsons LLP, which has offices in Cambridge, Northampton and Milton Keynes, acted for NEC.

About Pritchard Englefield

Pritchard Englefield is based in the City of London, conveniently located opposite Liverpool Street Station. The firm has been established since 1848, and is renowned for its international commercial focus.

The firm's lawyers are predominantly multi-lingual and a number are dually qualified in English law and in jurisdictions outside the UK. Pritchard Englefield has been advising clients within mainland Europe for more than 60 years, and is a leading law firm in Anglo-German and Anglo-French trade, finance and commerce. The firm also has substantial connections and an expanding client base in the Far East, Russia and the Eastern European countries and in North America.

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