



The Private Clinic Group acquires Hans Place Practice Ltd

London, 8 April 2009 – Today Hans Place Practice Ltd., Dr. Mike Comins's prestigious clinic in Knightsbridge, is acquired by The Private Clinic Group. As part of the transaction, Dr. Comins has been engaged to provide consultancy services as independent medical director.

Leveraging on the shift in people's attitude towards a less invasive approach and natural looking results, in the past year The Private Clinic Group has been expanding its range of treatments, launching new and effective minimally invasive treatments such as Vaser Lipo (the latest technology for fat removal in which Dr. Comins is an official trainer), EVLT laser treatments for varicose veins and Macrolane for breast and body shaping.

The acquisition of Hans Place Practice allows The Private Clinic Group to further strengthen its leading position in the UK non-invasive or minimally invasive segment of the cosmetic surgery business. Since inception, Hans Place Practice has been focusing on the great advances in technologies that now allow achieving significant cosmetic enhancements without resorting to major surgery.

Mike Comins collaboration will ensure that The Private Clinic will always be at the forefront of innovation and clinical excellence. Dr Comins is a respected senior member of the medical community and he specializes in cosmetic medicine. He has more than 10 years experience in cosmetic procedures and has trained many cosmetic medical practitioners in performing innovative procedures.

This acquisition represents the first add-on since the acquisition of The Private Clinic Group by BlueGem L.P. in February 2008. The Private Clinic is also continuing its regional expansion with the opening of a new clinic in Harborne, one of Birmingham's most prestigious areas, while two more clinics are in the pipeline for 2009.

BlueGem L.P. is a private equity fund formed at the end of 2006 by former Merrill Lynch professionals to make private equity investments in mid-market companies in Italy and in the UK. The capital commitment of the fund is €205 million and the fund is targeting companies with enterprise value of up to €200 million.