

After a four-year stint as a non-executive director and shareholder of Carnstone Partners Ltd, Jeremy Cole, Partner, Cole Associates Corporate Finance has stepped down, following the acquisition of Carnstone Partners by SLR Consulting Group.

Carnstone Partners is a global leader in providing sustainability and ESG advice and support to large companies and international institutions. Carnstone has a fast growing 45-strong team with staff in UK, France, China, and Singapore. A leader in delivering tailored strategies and solutions to companies across four key areas: climate change, human rights, rising inequality, and biodiversity loss across supply chains. They work with leading companies and international institutions. They have a particular strength in bringing sectors together within their multiclient projects, from across retail, pharmaceuticals, chemical manufacturing, media, and publishing.

SLR is committed to making sustainability happen and the addition of the Carnstone team further boosts their ability to help clients tackle some of the biggest ESG challenges they face around responsible sourcing, climate resilience, and impacts on communities and supply chains.

With the backing of SLR Group's new Investor Ares Capital Management, the addition of the Carnstone team demonstrates SLR's continuing ambition to increase its capacity in ESG services to support some of the world's most well-known companies to transition to being sustainable businesses and make positive impacts.

Neil Penhall, SLR's CEO said:

"I am delighted to welcome the Carnstone team to SLR. Advising our clients on ESG and sustainability issues is at the core of what SLR does and the Carnstone team is a great addition to our existing European and Asian teams. Carnstone's experience in supporting large companies to address social, environmental and climate issues in their corporate strategies and supply chains, as well as their experience in supporting sectors such as pharmaceuticals and media to deliver their sustainability commitments will greatly enhance SLR's commitment to Making Sustainability Happen."

Simon Hodgson, Carnstone Director & Senior Partner, commented:

"We are very excited to now be part of SLR. Together with SLR we'll be able to offer our clients access to more services, more technical expertise, and geographical coverage to address the sustainability imperatives we face. For our staff, this move offers greater opportunity for growth and development. The fit between our two organisations is excellent both in terms of cultural alignment and expertise, and the resulting ESG/sustainability consulting offering team will, we think, be market leading in terms of both scope and scale."

Jeremy Cole commented:

It's been a hugely enjoyable experience working with the other shareholders and directors of Carnstone, and with the whole Carnstone team during the last four years. The business has grown rapidly during this period by delivering first class, innovative ESG advice to its impressive base of clients. The strategy to involve staff in extensive share ownership has been a key part of the company's culture and success; the team are truly an amazing group of people. I shall miss my non-executive director role at Carnstone but wish the team every success for what, I'm sure will be a great future as part of SLR."

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