

## APEX INITIATES CDS ACQUISITION OF WATER AND ENERGY COMPLIANCE BUSINESS

In an acquisition initiated by Apex, fire detection and life safety systems specialist CDS has made its first foray into offering other compliance streams by acquiring GENEX (Genex) a company which specialises in water and energy consultancy.

Harrogate-based Genex joins the broadening CDS and offers specialist services such as legionella control, swimming pool management, closed circuit water analysis and treatment, energy audits and Energy Performance Certificates.

The company, which has worked with business and public sector bodies across the UK for 12 years, shares customers and sector expertise with CDS – enabling the new expanded business to offer a one stop shop to customers needing a variety of compliance services. The university and student accommodation markets are two areas in which both excel, with CDS seeing a growing number of higher education institutions choosing its expertise in an increasingly complex industry.

Genex MD Carl Cressey will remain in post, ensuring continuation of his valuable expertise to the existing client base and offering support to CDS customers wanting to add water and energy to their compliance portfolio.

CDS chairman Simon Cashmore said: "We're delighted to have added another string to the CDS bow. Our buy and build strategy has thus far seen us acquire other fire safety companies in different areas of the UK to enable us to expand our geographical reach. Our investment into Genex is our first step into broadening the compliance streams we offer. We aim to make it easier for facilities managers who need to purchase compliance consultancy in a variety of disciplines. Instead of sourcing fire safety from one company, water quality from another and so on, they can use one expert organisation to provide a number of services."

Genex MD Carl Cressey added: "It's very exciting to be joining the burgeoning CDS business. We share so many customers across similar sectors and between us have so much we can offer."

Paul Warren, MD of Apex Corporate Finance commented: "The acquisition of Genex by CDS is a significant step in growing and broadening CDS's capabilities into other complementary areas of the compliance market. CDS and Genex are highly complementary in respect of service / product capabilities, client base and culture".

## Apex Corporate Finance

Apex Corporate Finance is a leading Independent Corporate Finance house specialising in UK and international Acquisition and Sale Initiation Services in the business services, compliance, outsourcing and professional services sectors for FTSE 100, small and mid-cap plcs, private equity funds and portfolio companies and independent businesses. There are significant drivers of consolidation in these markets and there remains a keen appetite for high quality acquisitions across a number of jurisdictions.

For further information regarding our services, please contact Paul Warren, Managing Director on +44 7970 727531 or by e-mail on <u>paul.warren@apexcorporatefinance.co.uk</u>