

Compass Recruitment Solutions acquires Carter Schwartz to form Compass Carter Osborne

Tuesday 21st May 2024

Compass Recruitment Solutions announces the strategic acquisition of leading UK executive search boutique Carter Schwartz, merging its executive search business, Compass Executives, to form Compass Carter Osborne.

Compass Recruitment Solutions (“CRS”) announces the merger of **Compass Executives (“CE”)**, the existing dedicated executive search offering within CRS, with leading UK executive search boutique **Carter Schwartz (“CS”)**. The combined business will operate under a new brand, **Compass Carter Osborne (“CCO”)**, providing innovative human capital solutions across the independent health, social care, education, and life sciences markets.

The merger of two of the UK’s leading providers of executive search and consulting services for investor-backed companies consolidates the market position of CCO as the preeminent provider of retained C-suite services to the sector. CCO will be led by its two senior partners, Adam Carter, and Luke Osborne, supported by Sam Leighton-Smith, combining 40 years of experience in sourcing some of the high-profile executives in the independent health, care, education, and life sciences markets.

Sam Leighton-Smith, Group Managing Director at CRS said:

“I am delighted to welcome Adam and his team into the CRS fold and continue our investment thesis of only partnering with and investing into the industry’s best. We always aim to be a friend to the sector who adds significant value to our client partners and the people they serve. The alignment of our values, purpose and respective track records cements our proposition as the “go to” search firm within the markets we operate.”

Adam Carter, Senior Partner at CCO said:

“The strategic alignment of Carter Schwartz and Compass Executives brings together the two leading executive search houses within independent health and care. With a proposition greater than the sum of the parts, this solution offers our respective clients access to unparalleled market knowledge with a consultative potency unrivalled across the independent health, care, and life science niches – knowledge based advisory at its best”.

Luke Osborne, Senior Partner at CCO said:

“I am thrilled to welcome the Carter Schwartz team in a move that consolidates the UK’s leading search advisory facilitators of C-suite healthcare appointments. We’re excited about this growth opportunity as Compass Carter Osborne forms to offer unrivalled knowledge, backed by exhaustive research, to our SME and large cap investor clients domestically and internationally.”

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Notes to Editors:

About Compass Recruitment Solutions

CRS was founded in 2010 and is headquartered in Portsmouth, with offices in London, Manchester and Raleigh (US), employing 150 people. Today it is an award-winning recruitment solutions business focussed on companies and investors across the health, care, education, and life sciences markets in the UK and increasingly internationally. It operates through the Compass Carter Osborne, Compass Associates, Carrot Recruitment and Compass Corporate Services brands to provide a full, integrated service offering from retained executive search through to the contingent recruitment of skilled managers and head office appointments. In 2024 private equity firm Cow Corner invested in CRS, enabling the acceleration of plans for organic and inorganic growth to build scale in the health, life sciences, and social care sectors.

About Compass Carter Osborne

Launched in 2024 following the merger of award-winning search firms Compass Executives and Carter Schwartz. CCO has an unrivalled track record of providing executive search and advisory services to the investment community within health, care, and life sciences sectors.