



Arini Announces Appointment of Mathew Cestar as President

London, UK – [Arini](#), a \$4.5 billion specialised alternative asset manager that seeks to deliver absolute returns through a fundamental and opportunistic approach to credit investing globally, today announces the appointment of Mathew Cestar as President. Mathew will also serve on Arini’s Management and Investment Committees.

In this role, Mathew will be responsible for expanding and strengthening the firm’s relationships with private equity sponsors and corporates as well as leading key strategic initiatives. He will report into Arini’s Founder and Chief Investment Officer, Hamza Lemssouguer, and work closely with the other members of the firm’s Management Committee, including Younes Belcadi, Chief Operating Officer, Eliza Holladay, Chief Strategy Officer, and James Howard, Chief Risk Officer.

Most recently, Mathew was Senior Advisor to the CEO and Global Head of Credit of ICG, a listed Private Equity and Private Credit firm with total AUM of \$86.3 billion. Mathew brings over 25 years of experience in global capital markets, investment banking and technology. Before his role at ICG, Mathew was the CEO of ScION Tech Growth, a public company backed by ION, the market leader in financial software and data. Prior to this, Mathew held numerous leadership roles at Credit Suisse in London and New York, including serving as Co-Head of Investment Banking and Capital Markets in London with responsibility for Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A), Debt and Equity Capital Markets and the Investment Banking sector and country coverage teams. Throughout this period, Mathew was a lead underwriter and helped build and shape the leveraged finance market in EMEA.

Mathew’s appointment follows a strong period of growth for Arini, with the firm having grown from 21 professionals in January 2023 to 48 professionals across London and New York today. Arini’s 24-person strong investment team has first-hand familiarity with local restructuring regimes and extensive experience offering credit solutions across key jurisdictions, both in Europe and globally.

Hamza Lemssouguer, Founder & Chief Investment Officer at Arini, said: *“We are delighted to welcome Mathew to Arini. Mathew has spent two and a half decades building relationships with corporate borrowers and private equity firms and will be invaluable in strengthening our role as a capital solutions provider to leading businesses across Europe and globally, particularly as we enter a sustained higher interest rate environment.”*

“Arini has established itself as a leading credit investment manager and I’m excited to work alongside Hamza and the firm’s management team,” added Mathew Cestar, President at Arini. “I look forward to helping to strengthen Arini’s leadership position as a provider of financing solutions to companies and sponsors, both in Europe and further afield.”



Notes to Editors:

Mathew Cestar, President at Arini

Mathew is President and a member of Arini's Management Committee, focused on sponsor and corporate relationships. Previously, Mathew was Senior Advisor to the CEO and Global Head of Credit of ICG, a listed Private Equity and Private Credit firm. Mathew brings over 25 years of experience in global capital markets, investment banking and technology. Before his role at ICG, Mathew was the CEO of SciON Tech Growth, a public company backed by ION, the market leader in financial software and data.

Prior to this, Mathew held numerous leadership roles at Credit Suisse in London and New York. Most recently, Mathew was Co-Head of Investment Banking and Capital Markets at Credit Suisse in London with responsibility for Mergers & Acquisitions, Debt and Equity Capital Markets and the Investment Banking sector and country coverage teams. In this role, he also chaired the Global Credit Products Capital Commitment Committee in London and coordinated Credit Suisse's underwriting and capital commitment activities.

Over the course of his career, Mathew has led market leading franchises and built deep client relationships, serving private equity firms, corporates, institutional investors and entrepreneurs.

Mathew is the Co-Chair of the NHS Parents & Carers Advisory Committee for Adolescent Mental Health for Central & Northwest London. He also serves as a Board Advisor to UWC Atlantic College on their Systems Transformation Educational Pathway. He graduated magna cum laude from Columbia University with a BA in philosophy.

About Arini

Headquartered in London, Arini is a specialised alternative asset manager that seeks to deliver absolute returns through a fundamental and opportunistic approach to credit investing. With \$4.5 billion in AUM, Arini focuses primarily on European credit markets, which are defined by complex legal, regulatory and political structures. With an approach rooted in fundamental credit analysis, Arini's experienced team aims to provide investors with a significant early-mover advantage across performing, stressed and distressed credit. Learn more at www.Arini.com.

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