

Software Tools Provider Quick Base Combines With Cloudpipes

Quick Base Inc., a provider of build-it-yourself software tools, is merging with Cloudpipes Ltd. in its first strategic transaction since Vista Equity Partners took a majority stake in January.

By Laura Cooper

Quick Base Inc., a provider of build-it-yourself software tools, is merging with Cloudpipes Ltd. in its first transaction since Vista Equity Partners took a majority stake in January. The new deal combines the offerings of Quick Base, whose products allow people without computer coding experience to build business applications, with those of London-based Cloudpipes, which provides integration and automation tools for business applications through a cloud-based platform. Quick Base is among the leading providers of so-called low-code services that let businesses create custom software to automate processes or link them to their databases, according to a Forrester Research report. The Cambridge, Mass.-based company also helps customers manage their as-built applications and other resources.

Rick Willett, Quick Base's chief executive, said that the combination is a step toward connecting more disparate platforms and functions for customers.

Quick Base had considered more than 30 acquisition candidates over the past three years and focused on Cloudpipes in the spring, Mr. Willett said. Deal negotiations kicked off about 2 ½ months ago.

The merger with Cloudpipes will also provide Quick Base with a highly trained technical workforce in Sofia, Bulgaria, where the London company has a development center, Mr. Willett said.

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thousand IT professionals a year and it's a hotbed for strong talent," he said, noting that the flow of local graduates will give a significant tech hiring advantage to the merged company.

The merger provides an exit for several early venture investors in Cloudpipes, including LaunchHub Ventures, 2625 Capital, 500 Startups Istanbul and Brightcap Ventures, according to Mr. Willett.

Cloudpipes provides security, data and recordkeeping services; a visual programming environment; and a workflow designer tool that allows users to integrate products without code. Its customers include media company Discovery Inc., action camera maker GoPro Inc. and England's University of York, among others.

Alongside Quick Base's latest infusion of capital from Vista, former majority owner Welsh Carson Anderson & Stowe retained a stake in the low-code company. New York-based Welsh Carson reinvested in Quick Base through its recently announced 13th fund, which has collected \$4.3 billion, The Wall Street Journal has reported.

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