

Align Capital Partners' Fire Platform Covers More Ground; Acquires Fireguard

CLEVELAND and DALLAS, April 15, 2019 – Align Capital Partners (“ACP”) recently launched a new brand name for its fire and life safety platform – Protegis Fire & Safety (“Protegis”). In addition, Protegis, previously doing business as International Systems of America (“ISA”) and ABCO Fire Protection (“ABCO”), announced today that it has completed the acquisition of Maryland-based [Fireguard LLC](#) (“Fireguard”). Like Protegis, Fireguard provides fire safety service and repair, inspection and installation services for commercial customers in a variety of end markets. On a combined basis, Protegis now does business in 45 states and employs more than 325 fire protection technicians across the country.

Founded in 1973 and family-owned and operated, Fireguard offers complete fire protection services for commercial office, multi-family residential properties and government facilities throughout the greater Baltimore-Washington DC area. “We’ve known the Fireguard team for several years and are excited to welcome them to our growing company,” said Protegis CEO Mike Epperson. “Given their reputation for service quality and technical expertise, they are a natural extension of our brand in the Mid-Atlantic and allow us to further deepen our customer density in the area.”

“The partnership with Protegis is an exciting new chapter for Fireguard’s employees and customers. We have great pride in the personal attention we’ve delivered to our customers over the decades, and we evaluated many options for our next phase of growth; Protegis’ industry-leading service culture stood out to us and will help facilitate our continued first-rate commitment to customers,” said Fireguard President Michael Bonanni.

ISA was first acquired by ACP in December 2017 and then acquired ABCO in August 2018. “With each acquisition, Protegis continues to add key talent and resources to its expanding national platform. Protegis offers customers a unique, single-source solution for installing, testing, servicing and monitoring fire and security systems and replacement parts,” said ACP Managing Partner Steve Dyke.

Protegis is actively seeking fire and life safety service providers across the United States who are interested in exploring their next phase of growth. Companies of all sizes could be a potential fit as Protegis continues to expand its geographic footprint and service capabilities. Please contact VP of Business Development Steve Smith at ssmith@protegis.com to discuss further.

Working with Mr. Dyke on the transaction were Operating Partner John Dupuy, Vice President Jack Parks and Associate Bill Zaccardelli.

About Protegis

Protegis (the “Company”) provides inspection, maintenance, installation and repair services and sells new, repaired and remanufactured parts for fire and security systems and equipment. The Company’s team of professional engineers/designers and NICET-certified technicians design, install and program a wide variety of fire and security alarm brands. The Company’s national footprint and one-stop solution attract customers seeking to simplify their fire safety services spend and increase service quality through vendor consolidation. For more information, visit www.protegis.com.

About Align Capital Partners

Headquartered in Cleveland and Dallas, Align Capital Partners is a growth-oriented private equity firm that partners with business owners and management teams to create shared success. ACP brings experience, resources and a \$326 million committed fund to help companies accelerate their growth, to the benefit of management, employees and the firm's investors. ACP makes control investments in growth-oriented, lower-middle market specialty manufacturing, distribution and business services companies. For more information, visit www.aligncp.com.

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