

PRESS RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

SWEN Capital Partners appoints Christopher Underwood as Head of Mezzanine Debt

SWEN Capital Partners [SWEN CP], a leading player in responsible private market investment, announces the appointment of Christopher Underwood as Head of the Mezzanine Debt and Flex Equity activity. He reports to Jean-Philippe Richaud, Deputy CEO & CIO, and succeeds Diego Felipe Aponte-Vargas, who now oversees business development and investor relations.

With nearly thirty years of experience, particularly in corporate financing and private debt, Christopher Underwood brings his expertise to support the growth of SWEN CP's Mezzanine Debt activity. The strategy stands out with a differentiated positioning and strong recognition in the small-cap segment, which remains underserved by other market players. In his new role, he leads a team of five professionals, working closely with the Sustainable Finance team.

With over €200 million invested in the past 12 years across around 50 transactions, SWEN Capital Partners has built a solid track record in the mezzanine space. Its fund, SWEN Mezz Flex 3, already over 60% deployed, has completed 12 investments in high-growth sectors: future production and services, tech (data/software), as well as well-being and healthcare. The targeted companies are SMEs and mid-sized firms, with investment tickets ranging from €5 million to €10 million. Its multi-context positioning (including LBOs, sponsored or sponsorless, capital restructurings, external growth, or development mezzanine) gives it access to a particularly dynamic and diversified deal flow.

"I am delighted to join SWEN CP, whose hybrid approach—combining subordinated debt and equity—offers management teams flexible financing structures and solutions tailored to their needs, especially in a context of tightening financing conditions. I intend to put my experience to work for this ambitious strategy, which lies at the intersection of performance and responsible finance, to help build resilient business models," says Christopher Underwood.

Biography :



A graduate of NEOMA Business School and holder of an MBA from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, Christopher Underwood (55) has over 30 years of experience in corporate finance. He began his career in consulting at SV&GM (1995–1999) and PwC in Transaction Services (1999–2002), before joining IXIS CIB / Natixis in Structured Finance (2003–2008). Christopher later specialized in mezzanine debt, notably at Access Capital Partners (2011–2025), where he spent nearly 14 years. He joined SWEN Capital Partners in 2025 to lead the Mezzanine Debt activity.

À propos de SWEN Capital Partners

SWEN Capital Partners is a leading player in sustainable investment across private equity, infrastructure, and mezzanine debt, with over €9.6 billion* in assets under management and advisory, and employs more than 120 people. The management company, part of the Ofi Invest group (whose main shareholders are entities of the Aéma group: Macif, Abeille Assurances Holding, Aésio Mutuelle), Crédit Mutuel Arkéa, and SWEN Managers (a holding company of around 50 employees), has always placed sustainable finance at the heart of its approach, offering its clients innovative and responsible investment solutions. In October 2023, SWEN CP became a "Société à Mission" (purpose-driven company), marking a decisive orientation in favor of Nature.

*total amount of commitments

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