ELEVATE acquires BSD Consulting

19 December 2018



The integration of BSD expands ELEVATE's footprint across Europe and Latin America and further strengthens the group's sustainability and supply chain consulting offering.

ZURICH, 19 December 2018 — ELEVATE, the leading business risk and sustainability solutions provider, has acquired BSD Consulting (BSD), headquartered in Zurich with 9 offices on 4 continents.

Founded in Switzerland in 1998, BSD is an international consultancy providing knowledge and solutions for sustainable management and development. For 20 years, BSD has engaged and partnered with organizations across sectors to advance social justice, sound environmental practices and sustainable livelihoods. A Certified B Corporation (B Corp), BSD carries out industry-leading projects such as sustainability reporting, stakeholder engagement and supplier capacity building.

The addition of BSD further positions ELEVATE as one of the largest standalone sustainability consulting groups globally with a complete suite of solutions across all parts of the value chain and local teams on 4 continents. BSD supplements ELEVATE's historic strength in the apparel, retail, consumer goods and electronics sectors with further expertise in agricultural, automotive and mining sectors. BSD also brings deep working relationships with not-for-profit organizations and development agencies. This expanded coverage will enhance ELEVATE's ability to support its customers and partners in their commitment to joined-up, sustainable, balanced and inclusive economic growth.

"We are delighted to welcome BSD and are pleased to share the belief that the economic power of business can activate sustainable development in society to improve people's lives," said Ian Spaulding, Chief Executive Officer, ELEVATE. "Together, as one of the world's largest sustainability organizations we are uniquely positioned to lead and deliver innovative sustainability solutions in local markets globally."

"BSD's strengths in sustainability strategy, reporting, sustainable supply chain management, and GRI consultancy and training highly complement ELEVATE's existing offerings," added Felipe Arango, Partner, BSD Consulting. "We are also now able to deliver assessment, monitoring and verification services to our corporate clients in Europe by leveraging ELEVATE's extensive on-the-ground teams throughout Asia's major sourcing markets." The entire BSD team has joined ELEVATE and will continue to implement its existing programs and client work. This includes Felipe Arango, Beat Grüninger, and Peter Teuscher who will lead BSD as part of the emerging ELEVATE Consulting portfolio.

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About ELEVATE

ELEVATE is the leading business risk and sustainability solutions provider. We deliver improved organizational performance through sustainability and supply chain assessment and auditing, consulting, program management and analytics. We shape the industry with our innovative solutions to complex problems, by designing and implementing customized programs and technology that provide complete insight into risk and improve supply chain and sustainability performance. ELEVATE is headquartered in Hong Kong, and the company's 450 employees oversee work in over 110 countries through dedicated offices in Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Germany, Hong Kong SAR, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, UK, USA and Vietnam.

For more information, please visit <u>www.elevatelimited.com</u>

About BSD Consulting

BSD Consulting — business. sustainability. development — founded in Switzerland in 1998, is an international network of consultancy firms providing knowledge and solutions for sustainable development. BSD engages and partners with organizations across sectors to advance social justice, sound environmental practices and sustainable livelihoods. Headquartered in Zurich, the network extends to 9 offices on 4 continents, including Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and the United States.

For more information, please visit www.bsdconsulting.com

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