



Key deal for defence firm

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A CREWE-based defence firm has been bought by security giant, QinetiQ Group.

Boldon James Holdings, at Westmere Drive on Crewe Business Park, has been bought for £15.7m from private equity firm ISIS. The figure is set to rise by a further £4m, if specific criteria are met.

The firm employs around 70 people, most of whom are based in Crewe. It provides software solutions for high-end secure messaging, primarily for military, government and security customers worldwide.

Boldon James hope the deal will provide the firm with new markets and accelerate their growth, as well as safeguarding jobs.

Sales and marketing director Kieron Sambrook-Smith said: 'We have been growing strongly recently and the deal will help us to expand further by opening up new business opportunities. It will also help us to secure jobs within the company.'

QinetiQ was formed in 2001. Grossing more than £1 billion in sales, it has around 12,000 employees in the UK and USA.