

Nixon Peabody advises UST in acquisition of majority stake in Italdesign from Audi

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Washington, DC. Nixon Peabody LLP advised UST, a leading AI and technology transformation solutions company, in its acquisition of a majority ownership interest in Italdesign Giugiaro S.p.A., an automotive design and engineering company with a distinguished legacy. UST acquired the interest from Automobili Lamborghini, a subsidiary of the Audi Group.

The transaction strengthens UST's presence in the automotive sector by combining its digital engineering, technology, and transformation capabilities with Italdesign's nearly 60 years of automotive design, engineering, and innovation experience. Italdesign, based near Turin, Italy, is known for designing and developing some of the world's most iconic vehicles.

Together, UST and Italdesign will support the development of next-generation, digitally advanced vehicles by delivering end-to-end services, from initial concept and design through hardware and software development to production-ready systems. The combined capabilities will be delivered globally through UST's network across more than 30 countries.

The Audi Group will retain a significant equity interest in Italdesign and remain a long-term strategic partner, helping to ensure continuity and collaboration with leading automotive brands.

"We're proud to have advised UST on this strategic investment in one of the automotive industry's most respected design and engineering businesses," said **John Partigan**, a Nixon Peabody **Corporate** partner and leader of the firm's **Securities** team. "This transaction reflects the continued convergence of technology, engineering, and mobility, and positions UST to further expand its capabilities in the global automotive market."

As the automotive sector continues to embrace electrification, automation, and digital transformation, Nixon Peabody's cross-practice Automotive, Autonomous, and Electric Vehicles team provides legal counsel that enables both innovation and compliance. The firm's attorneys regularly advise automotive clients on transactions and contracting, artificial intelligence, intellectual property, privacy and data protection, and regulatory matters, as well as labor and employment issues and commercial disputes across the industry.

"Technology and AI continue to reshape the automotive and mobility landscape as established mobility companies and technology providers partner with each other and invest in the future of mobility," said **Sam Kim**, Nixon Peabody Corporate partner and leader of the firm's Automotive, Autonomous, and Electric Vehicles team. "This transaction is a formative example of how strategic partnerships are critical to helping companies position themselves for the next chapter of mobility innovation."

In addition to Partigan, the Nixon Peabody team representing UST included Corporate partner **Frank Hamblett** and counsel **Sarah Abel**, who advised on financing matters, and **Alexandra López-Casero**, who advised on export control matters. Baker McKenzie's Milan office served as Italian co-counsel.

For additional information on this deal, please see UST's press release: **UST and Italdesign Unite Design, Engineering, and AI to Shape the Future of Mobility**.