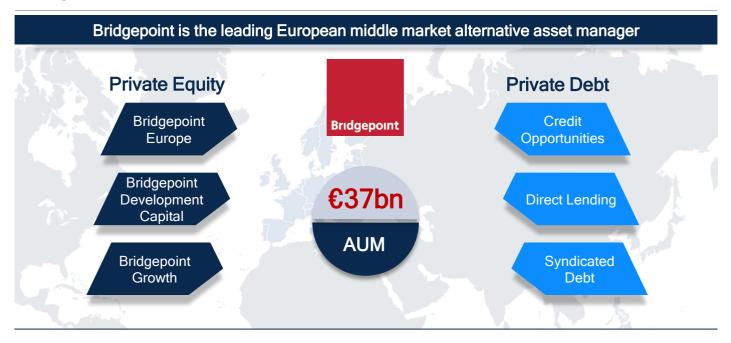
# **Bridgepoint Credit**

November 2022



# Bridgepoint

## Bridgepoint Investment Platform Overview



1984 Year of establishment 2000 Year of **Employee** Acquisition 400+ Investments

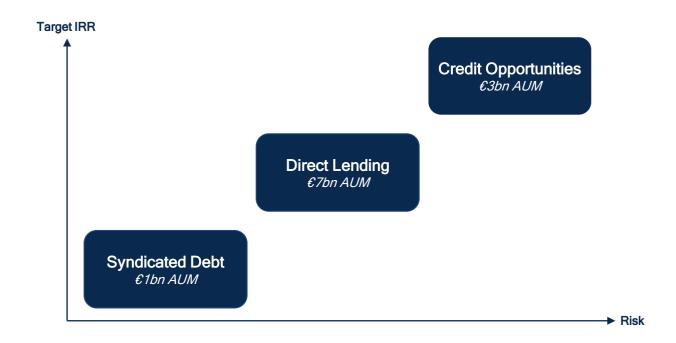
**ESG** Principles fully integrated

Values Based culture

## Three Complementary Credit Strategies

Bridgepoint

€11bn AUM in corporate credit across the risk / reward spectrum



## The 'One Firm' Advantage



Leveraging Bridgepoint's network and knowledge for due diligence and value creation



## Experienced Bridgepoint Credit Team

Large, diverse team with local presence across Europe and the US



#### **Experienced Credit Team**

#### ~60

Investment Professionals1

### 25 years

Average experience of partners

### 14 years

Track record of investing in credit

#### ~€13bn

Capital raised since inception

#### Substantial and **Diverse Coverage**

#### ~40%

Women at Investment Director level or below



## 15

Languages spoken

#### **Local Credit Presence in 8 Offices**



## Bridgepoint Direct Lending (BDL)



## BDL Investment Strategy - What We Do

Consistent approach since first vintage in 2015



#### Selecting assets that we believe will deliver target returns with the least risk



European middle market companies with c.€10-75m of EBITDA



7-9% target gross unlevered IRR



High and resilient EBITDA margins



Active ESG assessment



Senior secured debt with high value cover



Typically sole or largest lender



Predominantly **sponsored** deals

## BDL Investment Strategy - How We Do It

Strive to deliver target returns with protected downside



#### **Defensive Industries**

**Resilient Businesses** 

**Knowledge Angles** 

Robust Structures

## Identify opportunities in defensive industries

- Healthcare, Technology, Services
- Avoid known cyclicals, such as retail, consumer discretionary, heavy industrials
- Avoid sub-sectors with secular or structural issues and headwinds
- ESG considerations

## ...with resilient business models

- Strong competitive position
- Long-term "reason to exist"
- Pricing power ability to pass through costs to maintain EBITDA margins
- Avoid high operating leverage, low margin, low differentiation ("price takers")

## ...where we have strong knowledge angles

- Well-positioned to understand the risks
- Using our unique Bridgepoint Knowledge Bank to seek to identify and fully understand risks

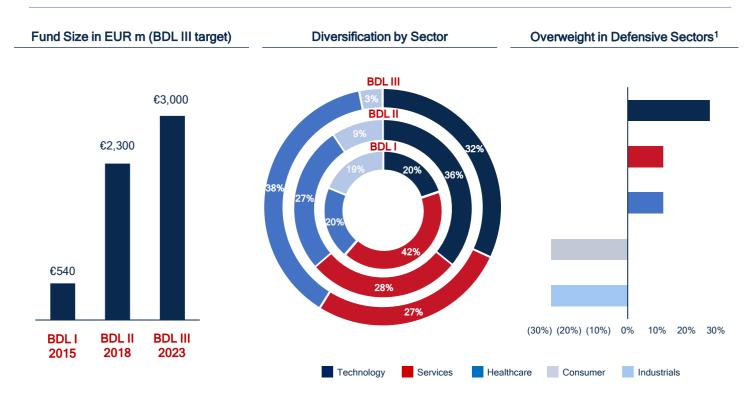
## ...and a robust capital structure

- Senior secured
- Floating rate
- Strong cash flow (typically >90% conversion)
- Strong value cover (typically <40% LTV)</li>
- Bound risks by stressing the cases for foreseeable risks and build buffer for "known unknowns"

## BDL: Scaling with a Consistent Focus on Defensive Sectors



Long-standing strategy of identifying resilient credits in defensive sub-sectors



## **BDL III: Investment Progress**



- Good pace of deployment with 24 portfolio investments, committing ~€1.6bn. In line with target
- Resilient end-markets and defensive sectors with 23 investments in core sectors of Healthcare, Services and Technology. Average EBITDA margin of ~30% of revenue
- First lien focus with loan-to-value less than 35% of enterprise value
- Pan-European reach through our local offices with investments in Benelux, the Nordics, UK, France and DACH
- ESG core consideration with ESG-linked margin ratchets featuring in 11 investments and in Fund Bridge Facility
- All sponsor-owned investments to date, with 19 different sponsors; healthy mix of repeat and new sponsors
- Focus on mid-market with median EBITDA of ~€25m

## Bridgepoint Credit Opportunities (BCO)



## Macro and Market Backdrop Creating Opportunity





Macro and Geopolitical



2 Impact

3 Market Environment

#### CHINA ZERO COVID POLICY



**Supply Chain** 

Disruption





Lower spending (corporate and consumer)

Slower economic growth

**Lower margins** and cash flow

Increased volatility



Compressing valuations



Widening credit spreads



Limited new public Issuance

**CONFLICT / WAR** 

### BCO: Key Value Proposition & Approach



Investment approach designed to deliver attractive returns in all market environments

#### **Focused Strategy**



- Fundamental due diligence approach using strong knowledge angles
- Companies with a strong "reason to exist" provide capital preservation and upside optionality
- Flexibility to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns across cycles and investment types
- Influential positions drive investment outcomes and create value

#### Differentiated Approach



- Best practice and knowledge sharing across Credit and Private Equity teams
- Broad sourcing network captures a wide range of primary and secondary deals
- Debt and equity value creation toolkits optimise value creation
- 350+ trusted Industrial Advisors across core sectors.

#### Extensive Experience Through Cycles



- Large, diverse team of ~60 investment professionals
- Team has strong track record of delivering returns through downturns
- 25 years average experience of Partners

#### Compelling Track Record<sup>1</sup>



- Top 5% performance for both BCO I and II; combined 14% net IRR
- 18% Gross IRR across the Bridgepoint Credit Opportunities strategy since inception
- Realised loss rate of only 0.1% per year over 14 years since inception
- ~€5bn committed to ~200 investments²

## BCO: Focused Investment Strategy

Targeting the best relative value across both primary and secondary markets



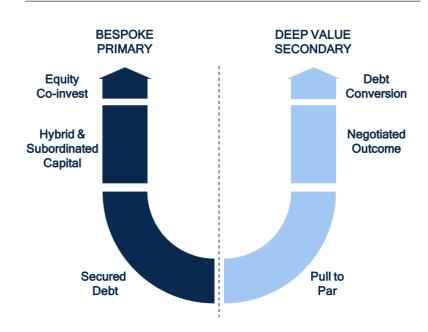
#### **Core Business Characteristics**

- Corporate cash flow lending in sponsored and corporate deals
- High quality companies with a "reason to exist" and strong value cover
- Companies in need of creative capital solutions or with challenged access to capital
- **Illiquid** situations
- Strong due diligence angles

#### **Target Investment Size**

- €30-100m per investment
- Building influential positions with a medium-term view to value
- Thoughtful diversification built into portfolio construction

#### **Key Investment Types**

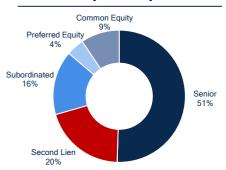


## **BCO**: Core Investment Strategy

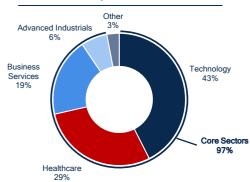
Breakdown of Credit Opportunities investments since 2020



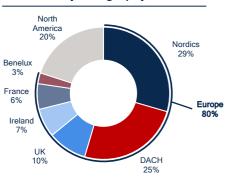
#### By Seniority



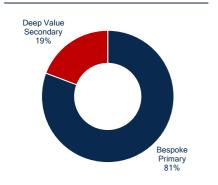
#### By Sector



#### By Geography



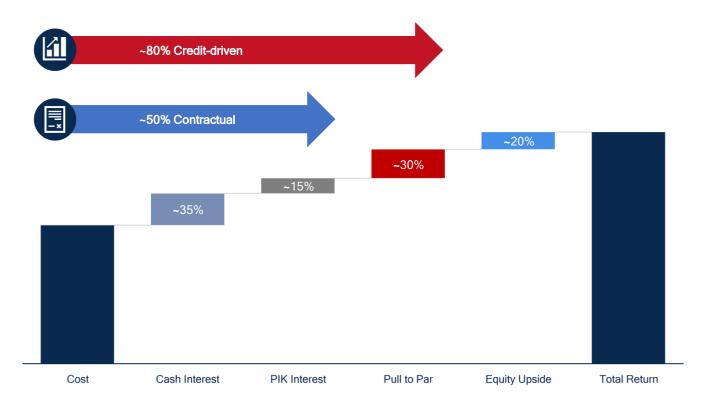
#### By Deal Type



#### **BCO: Source of Returns**

Majority of return contracted via interest payments





### **BCO**: Conclusion



Investment approach designed to deliver attractive returns in all market environments

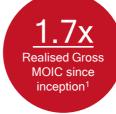


Fundamental due diligence approach using strong knowledge angles

Large team of ~60 investment professionals leveraging 100+ IAs and Bridgepoint platform



Differentiated sourcing angles maximising deal flow



23% Gross Realised IRR since inception

123
Investments

O.1%
Realised
annual loss rate

14 Year track record

## **Bridgepoint Syndicated Debt**



## **Bridgepoint** Credit

## Bridgepoint European CLO Strategy

- BCLO Credit Investments I is an alternative credit investment opportunity that provides investors with exposure to leveraged interest in senior secured floating rate corporate loans via the Bridgepoint Credit European CLO strategy
- The Bridgepoint Credit European CLO strategy was launched in November 2020 and currently consists of three reinvesting CLOs and one CLO warehouse representing c.€1.1bn AUM
  - €300m Bridgepoint CLO I, issued in December 2020
  - €350m Bridgepoint CLO II, issued in June 2021
  - €400m Bridgepoint CLO III, issued in December 2021
  - €200m Bridgepoint CLO IV warehouse facility, currently €30m invested
- Current notional invested by Bridgepoint Group is approximately €40m
- Highly selective and diversified portfolio construction approach with a focus on core defensive sectors
- Long term fundamental credit opportunity with locked-in funding and a target IRR of 15-17%

## Investment Philosophy







#### **Highly Selective**

- Focus on capital preservation: defensive business models with stable cash flows and strong value cover
- Market-leading companies with strong "reason to exist"
- ESG focused



### Relative Value Focus

- Strong relative value mindset ensured through exposure to 3 complementary investment strategies
- Portfolio optimisation and maximisation of risk-adjusted returns



#### **Due Diligence-Led**

- Deep fundamental credit analysis
- Thematic approach with detailed reviews of the relevant industry trends and macro factors
- Network of 100+ core Industrial Advisors and internal knowledge database



#### **Disciplined Portfolio Management**

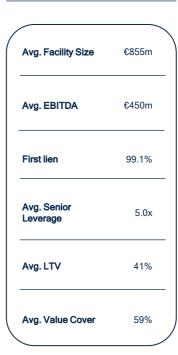
- Active management style combined with rigorous and disciplined monitoring
- Clearly defined daily, monthly and quarterly checks
- Supported with proprietary risk management framework

### Portfolio Construction

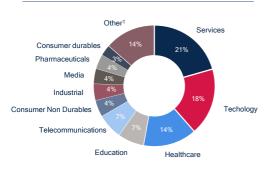




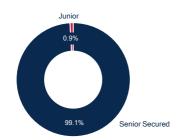
#### **Portfolio Characteristics**



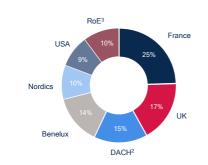
#### **Industry Exposure**



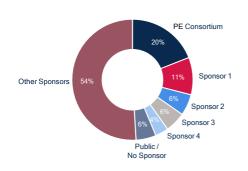
#### Seniority



#### **Geographic Exposure**



#### **Sponsor Breakdown**

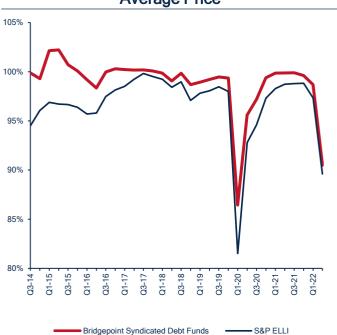


## Portfolio Approach - Bridgepoint vs. the Market

Focus on high-quality assets







Metric	Bridgepoint Ranking (of 60 Managers)	Quartile
Portfolio price	#1	<b>1</b> st
Equity NAV	#2	1 <sup>st</sup>
BB MVOC	#3	<b>1</b> st

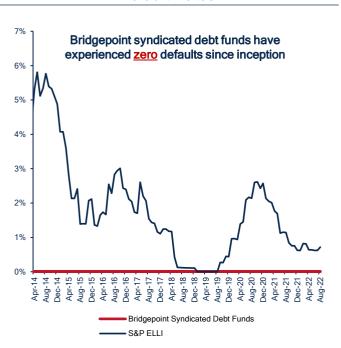
Source: DB, European CLO Manager Barometer, August 2022

## Portfolio Approach - Bridgepoint vs. the Market

Absence of defaults and minimal low rated assets



#### **Default Rates**



Metric	Bridgepoint Ranking (of 60 Managers)	Quartile
Caa / CCC Rating	#8 / #14	1 <sup>st</sup>

Source: DB, European CLO Manager Barometer, August 2022

## **Bridgepoint Credit ESG**





## **Key ESG Initiatives**

#### **UN PRI**

#### **Enhanced** Assessment

Investment in **ESG Team** 

**ERM** Collaboration

**Margin Ratchets** 

Article 8

**DE&I Initiatives** 

- In 2021, Bridgepoint achieved a 5/5-star UN PRI rating for Investment & Stewardship policy (97/100), Direct Private Debt (97/100) and Direct - Private Equity (95/100) among competitors with median scores of 60, 67 and 66, respectively, for each category
- Recent update of Responsible Investment Policy and ESG approach
- Increased focus on alignment with UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Completed inaugural dedicated semi-annual ESG portfolio review
- Bridgepoint's full-time ESG team supplemented with hire of dedicated ESG specialist into Credit team in May 2022
- ESG is deeply entrenched in Bridgepoint Credit team with four dedicated ESG Ambassadors across the investment strategies
- Engaged ERM, a leading global environmental consultant, to advise Bridgepoint Credit on assessing the carbon footprint and TCFD-aligned risk assessments on our investment portfolio
- ERM has also reviewed and advising on our ESG framework and holding dedicated ESG training sessions
- From 2022 onwards, all direct lending assets will have much broader ESG reporting
- ESG performance-linked margin ratchets now standard on all new primary loans
- ESG performance-linked margin ratchet on our bridge facilities one of first credit GPs to do so globally
- BDL III and BCO IV both Article 8 funds under the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR)
- Expanded and more comprehensive blacklist for excluded industries
- Firmwide mutual mentoring programme and role model dinner series launched
- Host of other initiatives: International Associate Programme, Womens Leadership Forum, Out Investors, Level 20 Future Leaders

### Our ESG Assessment



ESG considerations are ingrained in our investment process

#### **Deal Sourcing Due Diligence Monitoring** Is the company aligned with UN SDGs? Comprehensive ESG due **Dedicated ESG team** focusing diligence process including on best practice and portfolio Sponsor, Management and performance 13 CLIMATE Credit Team analysis Bridgepoint Credit Portfolio ESG Ranking **Bridgepoint Credit Responsible Investing Questionnaire** code/policy? Please provide a copy. 5.0 policy including cyber security? Does the Company have a formal, written, anticorruption policy intended to avoid negligent, unfair, or 4.0 Has the Company or Sponsor identified any nor compliance with applicable regulations governing iness practices of the jurisdictions (includin 3.0 in which the Company conducts business? were the auditors last changed? 2.0 Does the board have independent direct **Blacklisted activities** Does the Board conduct an annual strategic review or 1.0 0.0 Is there any information about strategies, policies, or 0.0 2.0 3.0 5.0 1.0 4.0 the following fields: energy efficiency, carbon efficiency waste management, water management? Practices

- Selective thematic investing in businesses with societal solutions to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- ESG-centred due diligence approach driving investment decisions
- Culture of continuous improvement in ESG reporting and metrics of investments

### Proactive ESG Incentivisation

Bridgepoint Credit seeks to drive better ESG outcomes



- Bridgepoint Credit is at the forefront of new market practice
- Margin ratchets linked to ESG outcomes are being incorporated into loan documentation
- Relevant for portfolio companies and fund bridge facilities
- Recent examples include:

#### Company 1



Up to 15 bps margin reduction or margin increase based on the following targets:

- Improvement in employee wellbeing through >10% of employees to be trained as Mental Health First Aiders;
- Reduction in scope 1 and 2 emissions generated from red diesel, company vehicles, purchased electricity and purchased gas; and
- Reduction of waste to landfill created by the company's operations

#### Company 2



**Up to 5 bps margin increase** for failing to achieve the following:

- Appointment of Board member responsible for ESG strategy;
- Annual greenhouse gas inventory assessment and sustainability analysis; and
- Targets to reduce greenhouse gases or one other sustainability-related target.

**Up to 5 bps margin reduction** for achieving the following :

- Increased proportion of female Board members; and
- Increased share of green electricity.

#### Company 3



**Up to 5 bps margin reduction** or **margin increase** based on four ESG targets:

- Annual carbon footprint assessment;
- Setting and achieving carbon emission reduction targets;
- Increasing ratio of women in senior management; and
- Implementing policies to ensure balanced and inclusive recruitment processes.

## Conclusion



## **Bridgepoint Credit Differentiators**

Proven track record over 14 years









Collaborative sourcing approach



Robust due diligence



Relative-value mindset



Responsible ESG focus



Debt and equity value creation toolkits

## Q&A



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