

Vision 2022

Leaders driving growth

Scotland

In association with



Grant Thornton



Vision 2022: Scotland

The Vision 2022 Series, in association with Grant Thornton, recognises the best teams backed by private equity and venture capital, with judging criteria including growth, competitiveness, innovation and ESG factors.

Companies recognised will be revealed throughout 2022, with the top 15 announced at the BVCA's Gala Dinner on 1 December. At the Gala Dinner, we will also highlight four of the top 15, representing each investment stage: early stage, scale-up, medium-sized, and large businesses.

Further information regarding Vision 2022 can be found on the [BVCA website](#).

The judging panel

Chair:

David Menton, Managing Partner, Synova

Judges:

Dr. Manjari Chandran-Ramesh, Partner, Amadeus Capital Partners

Rhian Elston, Investment Director, Development Bank of Wales

Beth Houghton, Partner & Head of Impact Fund, Palatine

Ewan Mackinnon, Partner, Maven

James Marshall, Director, NorthEdge

Mo Merali, Partner, Head of Transaction Advisory Services, Grant Thornton

Andrew Priest, Partner, Inflexion

Jan Rutherford, Partner, Scottish Equity Partners

Dan Smith, Partner, Head of Yorkshire, LDC

Grant Thornton's private equity team provides a full range of services to assist private equity and portfolio firms maximise their growth potential

Our integrated approach brings together a team of professionals from advisory, taxation and assurance services who provide bespoke solutions from investment through the growth phase to exit. As well as acting for private equity houses, we advise private equity-backed companies, and management teams seeking private equity investment.

Visit [grantthornton.co.uk](https://www.grantthornton.co.uk) to find out more, or contact:



Mo Merali

Head of Private Equity

T +44 (0)20 7728 2501

E mo.merali@uk.gt.com



Peter Terry

Corporate Finance Partner

T +44 (0)161 953 6350

E peter.terry@uk.gt.com



Humza Khan

Private Equity Coverage

T +44 (0)161 214 3683

E humza.n.khan@uk.gt.com



Andy Wood

Yorkshire Practice Lead

T +44 (0)113 200 2568

E andy.wood@uk.gt.com

BioAscent



Recognised

bio:ascent

BioAscent's is a full-service provider to pharmaceutical companies during the discovery phase of drug trials to help identify potential drug candidates for preclinical trials and test the absorption, distribution, metabolism, and toxicity of a drug. The testing process includes testing the interaction of a drug against over 1 million chemical compounds. BioAscent has a strong market position due to the uniqueness of its ability to offer a compound storage management facility which other contract research organisations (CRO) are not able to offer and utilise as a service.

In 2018 Maven Capital Partners recognised this storage capability complemented with the full service offering of the design, production, and testing on targets and provided the initial financial investment to help grow the business. Maven Capital Partners offered personnel with industry knowledge and global networks to support the expansion of BioAscent to progress to meet the standards of a high-quality pharmaceutical company. Their investment in facilities and expert staff and network introductions helped BioAscent to double their revenue and triple their headcount (from 7 to 92) in 4 years.

BioAscent

Recognised



bio:ascent

Establishing and maintaining a comprehensive collection of compounds in optimum conditions and providing the full-service offering requires significant time and up-front investment and in highly skilled talent in the fields of biology, chemistry, and compound management. BioAscent customers include major pharmaceuticals, biotech, health charities and academia. Its ability to cater to academics seeking their expertise and capabilities to test their theories has helped them to grow their unique reputation. BioAscent has plans to grow in the US market and currently have a small number of employees in the regions to make connections and raise awareness of BioAscent's long term strategy.

BioAscent colleagues are motivated and driven to create business value that that can make a difference to society and their core purpose is deemed as one of major societal benefit. BioAscent Business has established a Social Committee which focuses on ensuring the business interacts with its community; from encouraging socially responsible days and food banks support to offering schools the opportunity to visit the facilities. During the Covid-19 pandemic BioAscent provided senior staff and equipment to aid the establishment of the lighthouse testing facility in Glasgow, which was crucial in the response to the pandemic, and at one point processed 80% of all Covid tests in the UK. The BioAscent team mission is to continue with passion to discover ground-breaking innovation that benefits society.



Recognised

bio:ascent

Paul Smith,

Chief Executive Officer, said:

"BioAscent offers enviable, world-class expertise in the key drug discovery disciplines of biosciences, medicinal chemistry, and compound management to the increasing number of companies that are outsourcing their drug discovery. The 2018 investment from Maven Capital was invaluable to our rapid growth: from access to personnel with industry expertise to their network. The investment allowed us to add additional biosciences and chemistry services to the existing compound management offering."

Judges comments:

BioAscent was recognised as outstanding for achieving incredible growth in the past couple of years. The panel noted that this is impressive given that BioAscent compete against major players in the pharmaceutical field. The panel noted BioAscent's strong ESG agenda and their contribution to the creation and continued support of high-quality jobs in Scotland, along with keeping innovation at the centre of the region.



British Private Equity & Venture Capital Association (BVCA)

3rd Floor, 48 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JF
+44 (0)20 7492 0400 / bvca@bvca.co.uk / www.bvca.co.uk

Find us on

