



SOFTWARE M&A REPORT | Q4 2025 EDITION

Momentum builds in software M&A as deal values and volumes rebound

JANUARY 2026

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Welcome to the latest edition of Silverpeak's Software M&A report

This quarter's analysis examines European and North American deal activity, drawing on more than 28,000 transactions from Capital IQ and Pitchbook.

Our comprehensive dataset captures both disclosed and undisclosed transactions across all deal sizes. This robust foundation enables us to identify meaningful trends in buyer activity, valuation dynamics, and cross-border deal flow within the software sector.

Editorial team

For further discussion or sector insight, please contact:

Pietro Strada
ps@silverpeakib.com

Dominic Taurins
dt@silverpeakib.com

Joseph Walker
jwa@silverpeakib.com

Quarterly key findings

Software M&A momentum strengthened in 2025, with deal values and median deal sizes reaching three-year highs. Strategics were the most active buyers in large-cap deals, PE drove mid-market activity, and European buyers gained share across deal count and value in their own continent.

- **Median deal values have more than tripled since 2022** - rising from \$40m to a three-year high of \$129m in 2025 as the software sector matures and companies continue to scale.
- **A healthy dealmaking environment was evident across all size segments** - with sustained activity in both the large-cap and mid-market deals. 2025 marked the strongest year since 2022, with cumulative deal value reaching \$362bn.
- **Strategic buyers were most active in the largest transactions** - leading the market by deal value and accounting for 11 of the 15 \$1b+ deals in Q4 25, while PE continued to be the engine of mid-market activity.
- **European buyers have become increasingly active over recent months** - with both their share of total deal count and deal value rising by more than 10% relative to North American counterparts in recent months.

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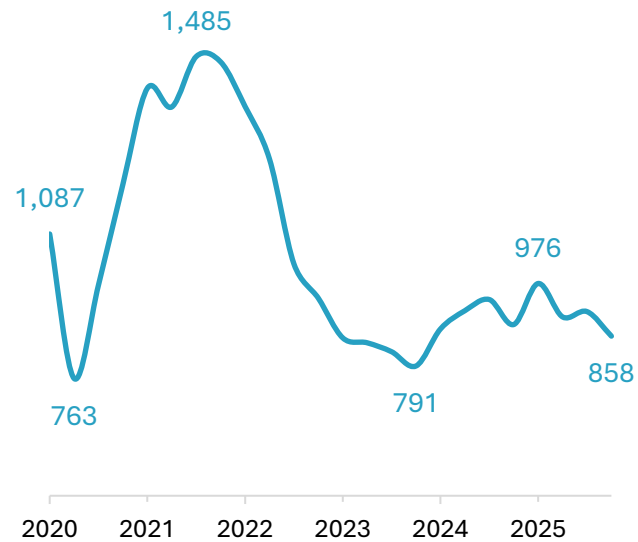
Software remains the most active and resilient sector in tech M&A globally. 2025 marked a renewed acceleration in deal activity, with total value reaching a three-year high and sustained interest from both private equity and strategic acquirers.

PIETRO STRADA
MANAGING PARTNER,
SILVERPEAK



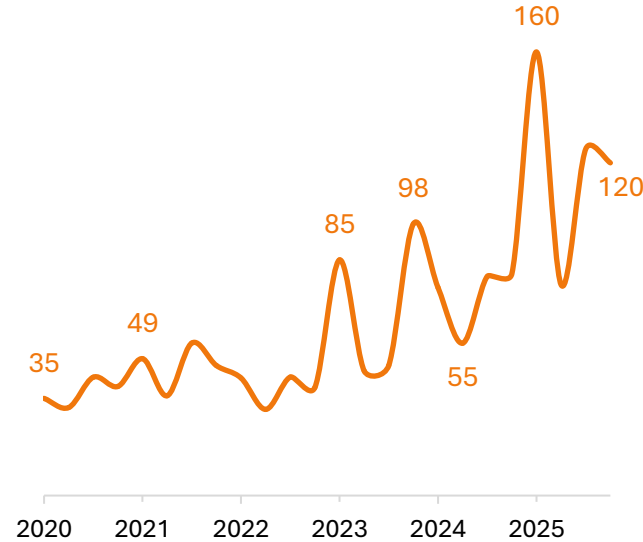
Software M&A momentum builds as deal count stabilises and median valuations accelerate through 2025

QUARTERLY TOTAL DEAL COUNT stabilises following post-COVID normalisation



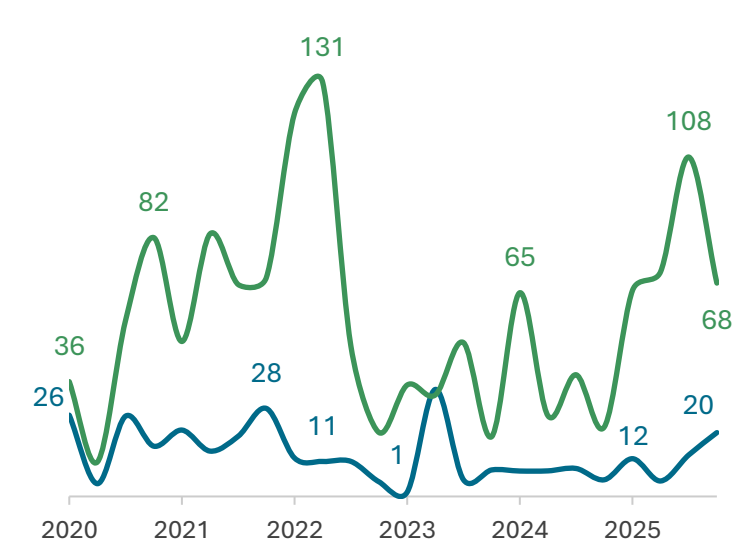
Against the backdrop of macroeconomic conditions, software M&A deal counts have stabilised and edged lower in the last quarter.

QUARTERLY MEDIAN DEAL VALUE (\$m) trends higher, driven by large-cap deals



Median software M&A deal value has increased materially, more than doubling since 2022, as buyers prioritise higher-quality, scalable assets.

QUARTERLY CUMULATIVE DEAL VALUE (\$b) in Europe is up, and North America is down

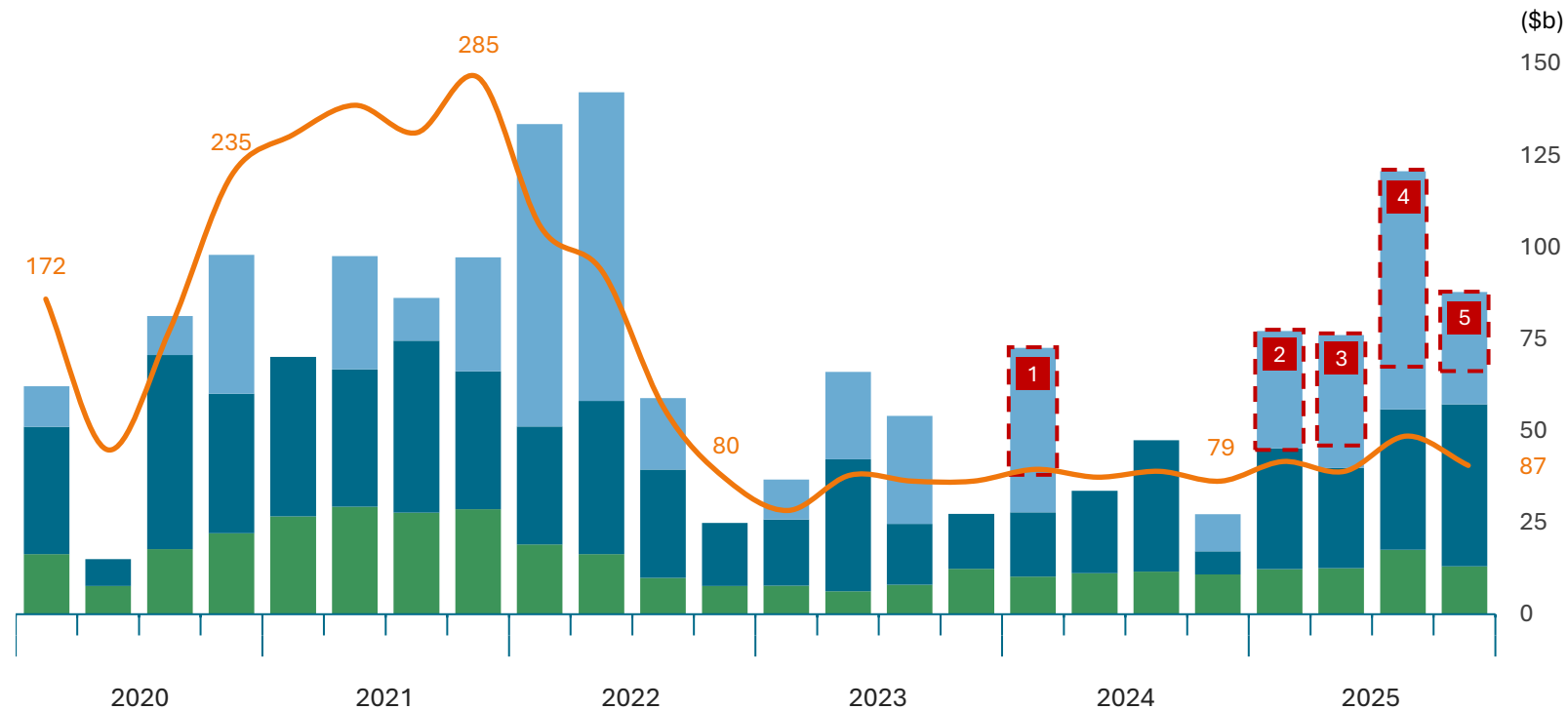


European deal value shows upward momentum, supported by increased mega-deals activity, as North American activity eases from recent Q3 2025 highs.

Software M&A total deal value continues to rise, across all size segments, in particular driven by mega-deals relative to 2024

M&A DEAL VALUE BY SIZE

Under \$1b between \$1b and \$10b over \$10b total disclosed deal count



Software M&A total deal values have increased sharply in 2025 compared with 2023 and 2024, driven by a strong appetite for mega deals. This has occurred despite the total disclosed deal count remaining broadly stable, having plateaued from its 2022 peak.

Larger platform acquisitions continue to underpin total disclosed deal value, highlighted by acquisitions such as Electronic Arts, Dayforce, and Groq in 2025.

MEGA DEALS (TARGET | ACQUIRER)

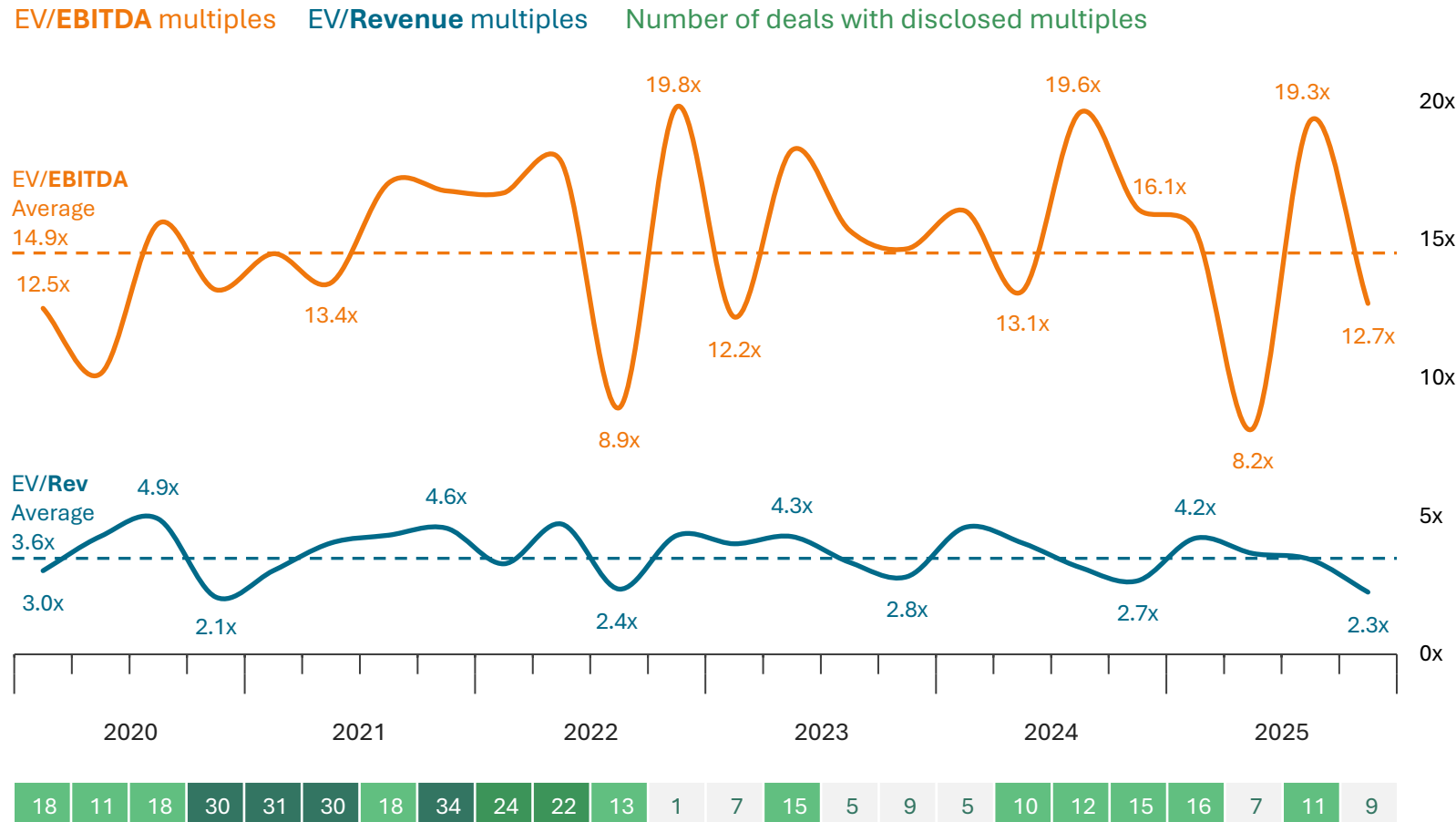
1	\$33b	Ansys	SYNOPSYS
2	\$32b	WIZ	Google
3	\$24b	worldpay	globalpayments
4	\$53b	EA	PIF
5	\$20b	groq	NVIDIA

Source: CapIQ, Pitchbook.

Notes: a) Only deals greater than \$5m shown. b) \$ values shown are implied EV. c) Data as of 9 January 2026.

Median valuation multiples have declined but remain within the historical band

MEDIAN VALUATION MULTIPLES FOR M&A DEALS [WHERE BOTH EV/REVENUE AND EV/EBITDA ARE DISCLOSED]



EV/EBITDA multiples have compressed but remain within the historical 12–17x band, declining by 3.4x year-on-year, reflecting increased pricing discipline among buyers.

EV/Revenue multiples have also fallen but remain within the historical 2–4x band, down 0.4x year-on-year. This points to a more selective valuation environment, where multiples remain more sensitive to macro conditions and investor sentiment.

It is important to note, however, that this analysis is based on a confined dataset with a limited number of data points.

Increased buyer selectivity is accelerating the repricing of software valuations

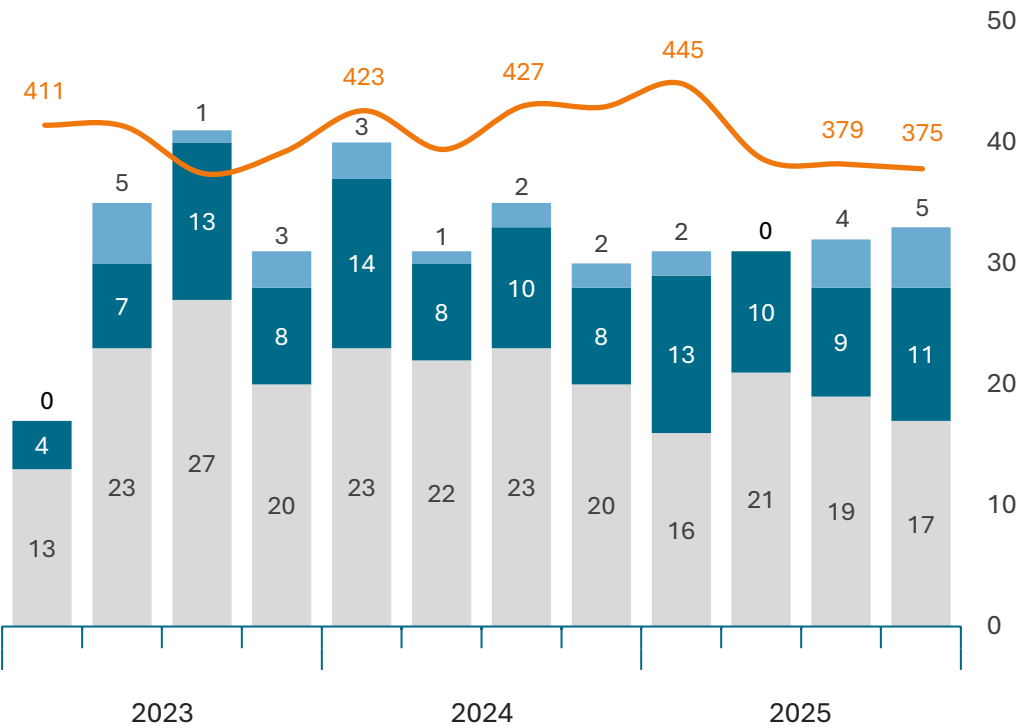
Source: CapIQ, Pitchbook.

Notes: a) Only deals greater than \$5m shown. b) Only deals with an EV/EBITDA multiples <58x shown here. c) Data as of 9 January 2026.

European software M&A activity remains stable as European buyers increase their share of total value and count of European targets

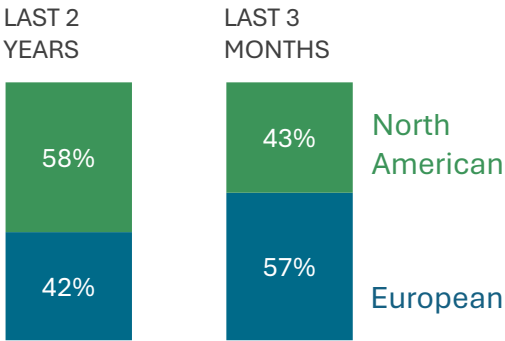
NUMBER OF EUROPEAN DISCLOSED M&A DEALS

Under \$100m over \$100m over \$1b Total undisclosed deal count

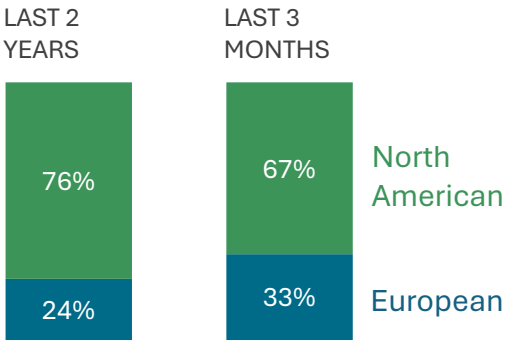


BUYERS OF EUROPEAN TARGETS BY HQ LOCATION

BY VALUE



BY DEAL COUNT



European software M&A activity remains stable, with quarterly deal volumes broadly consistent. This stability is supported by continued \$1b+ transaction activity, despite a decline in sub-\$1b deals in recent quarters.





















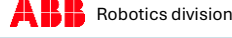



































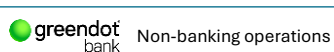



Buyers of European targets are shifting by both value and deal count. European buyers have increased their share of deal count and value in the last three months, compared to the last two years.

However, North American buyers continue to dominate by deal count, highlighting a growing divergence between value and volume in European software M&A.

Source: CapIQ, Pitchbook.
Notes: a) Only deals greater than \$5m shown. b) Data as of 9 January 2026.

Strategic buyers of premium assets dominated \$1b+ software M&A activity in Q4 2025

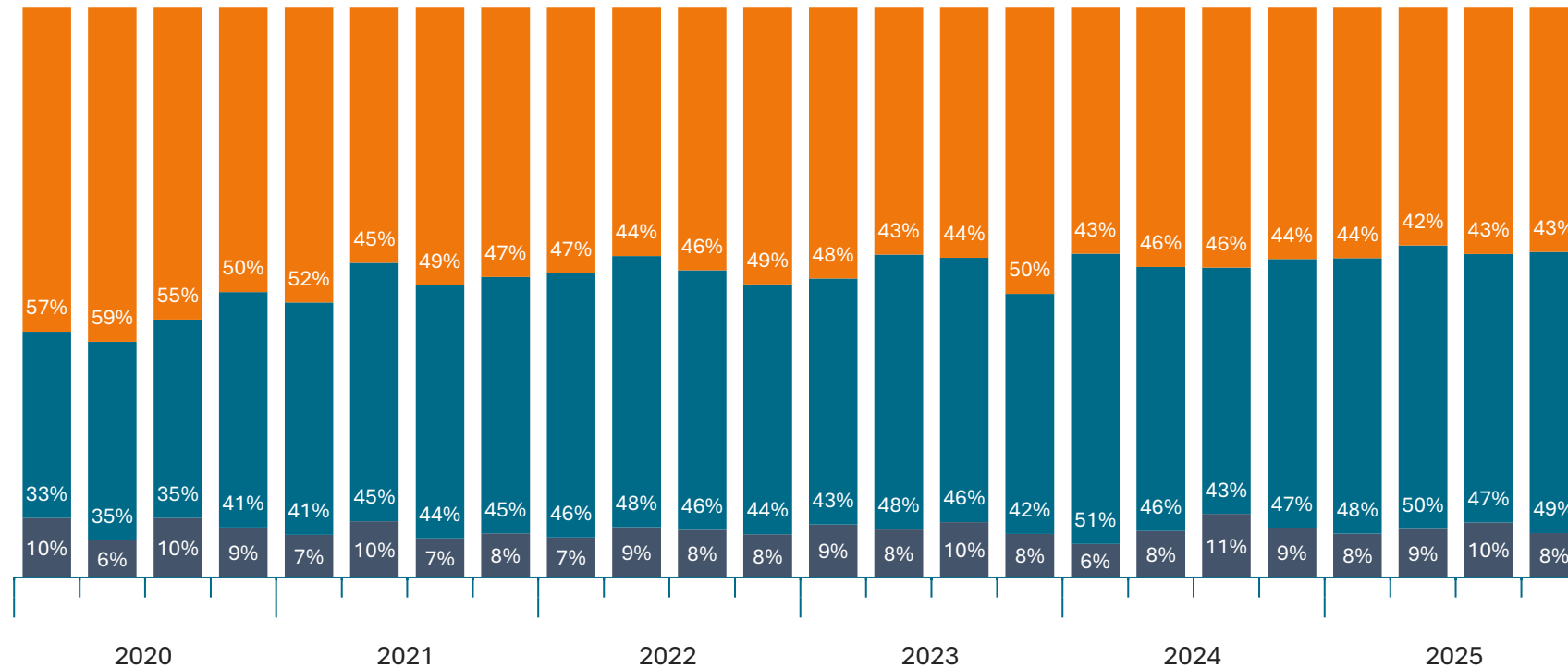
M&A TRANSACTIONS EXCEEDING \$1B IN Q4 2025

EV SIZE	EV/REV	EV/EBITDA	TARGET	HQ	SECTOR	ACQUIRER	TYPE	HQ
\$20.0b	40.0x	NA	 groq		AI acceleration software	 NVIDIA	STRATEGIC	
\$10.7b	9.6x	NA	 CONFLUENT		Data streaming software	 IBM	STRATEGIC	
\$7.8b	NA	NA	 ARMIS		Cybersecurity software	 servicenow	STRATEGIC	
\$6.8b	NA	NA	 Forsta		Customer experience software	 qualtrics ^{XM}	PE-BACKED	
\$5.4b	NA	NA	 tipico		Sports betting software	 Betclic	STRATEGIC	
\$5.4b	NA	NA	 ABB Robotics division		Industrial automation software	 SoftBank Group	STRATEGIC	
\$3.4b	NA	NA	 chronosphere		Cloud observability software	 paloalto ^{NETWORKS}	STRATEGIC	
\$3.0b	NA	NA	 Dreams		Virtual reality software	 KPIT	STRATEGIC	
\$2.7b	2.3x	13.4x	 CSG		Customer engagement software	 NEC	STRATEGIC	
\$2.2b	3.2x	45.4x	 jamf		Device management software	 FRANCISCO PARTNERS	PE	
\$1.7b	NA	NA	 securiti		Data privacy software	 veeam	PE-BACKED	
\$1.7b	4.0x	132.5x	 SEMRUSH		Digital marketing software	 Adobe	STRATEGIC	
\$1.7b	2.3x	12.0x	 allfunds		Wealth management software	 DEUTSCHE BÖRSE GROUP	STRATEGIC	
\$1.3b	NA	NA	 GoCardless		Payment processing software	 mollie	STRATEGIC	
\$1.1b	NA	NA	 greendot bank Non-banking operations		Embedded finance software	 SMITH VENTURES	PE	

PE and PE-backed acquirers continue to have the majority share of total deal count

SHARE OF DEAL COUNT BY BUYER TYPE

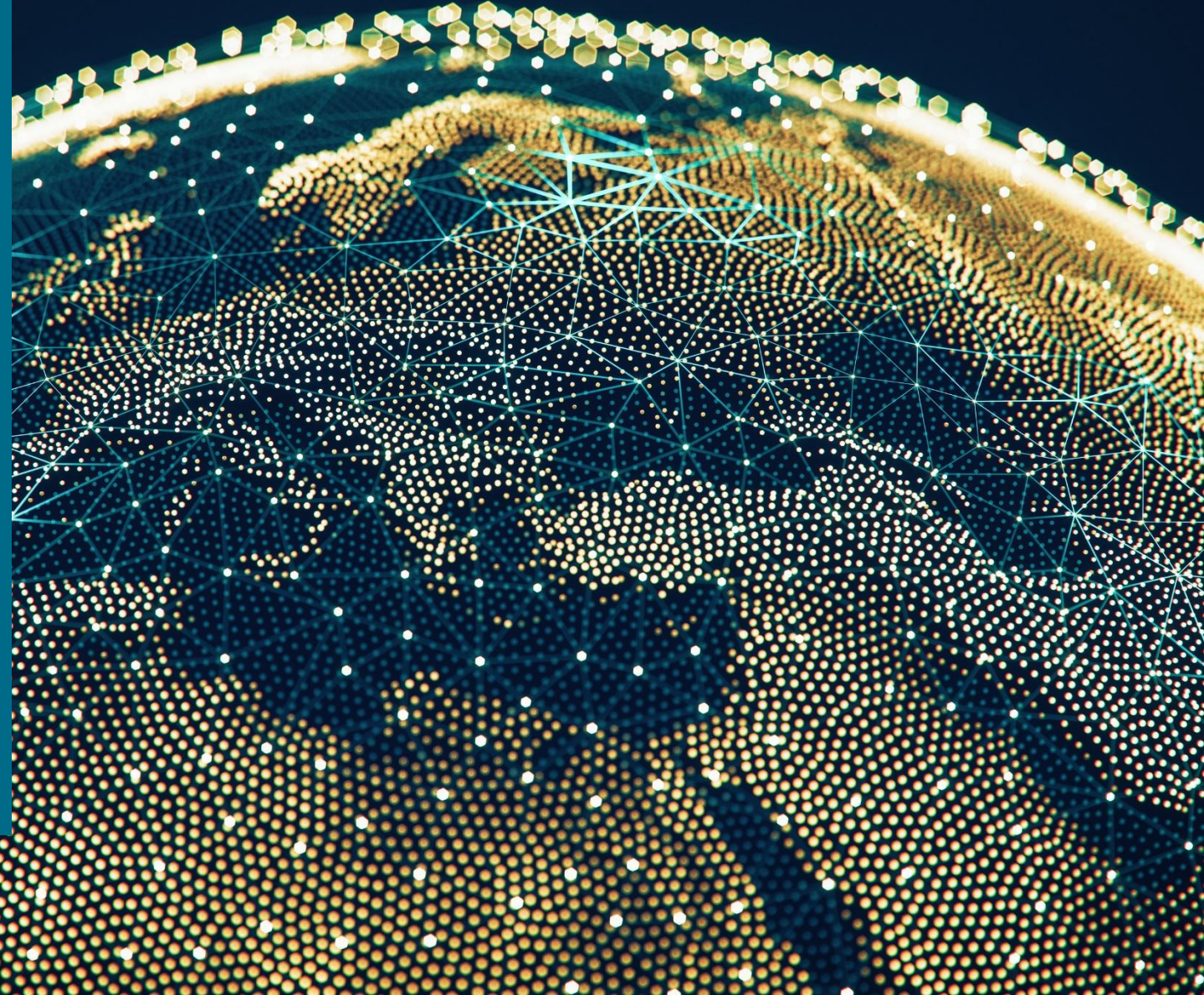
PE PE-backed Strategic



PE and PE-backed buyers maintained a majority share of software M&A activity in 2025, accounting for 55% of total deal count – marking their highest share on record.

While PE and their portfolio companies continue to dominate the share of total deal count, strategic buyers remain highly active in transactions exceeding \$1bn. This underscores sustained appetite for premium, strategically aligned assets, even as strategics' share of total deals continues to fall.

About Silverpeak



We go further to understand a company's full value

We uncover the hidden value in technology, growth potential, executive strength and strategic vision.

Once we've unlocked the full value story, we engage the buyers and investors best positioned to maximise returns.



€30-300m

M&A transactions

€15-150m

Growth financing

Silverpeak is a
boutique
investment bank
specialising in M&A
and financing for
technology growth
companies

With experience of over 400 deals, our team understands what makes tech businesses valuable, connecting them with the right buyers and investors globally.

25+

team concentrated
in a single office

400+

completed deal
experience

60%+

transactions with North
American counterparties
in the last 3 years

M&A success across Europe and North America

<p>UK UK Dec 2025</p> <p>myHappyMind</p> <p>Digital mental health solutions for schools</p> <p>Minority investment from</p> <p>LDC</p>	<p>AU DE Oct 2025</p> <p>BlueOcean MARINE TECH SYSTEMS</p> <p>Autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) for C4ISR</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>Helsing</p>	<p>UK AU US May 2025</p> <p>rotageek</p> <p>Intelligent workforce management platform</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>ELMO K1 Investment Management</p>	<p>UK UK Apr 2025</p> <p>ScreenCloud</p> <p>Global leader in digital signage software</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>TENZING</p>	<p>CH US Feb 2025</p> <p>IDQ FROM VISION TO TECHNOLOGY</p> <p>Quantum secure networking</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>IONQ</p>
<p>AUT AUT Oct 2024</p> <p>JICO Technology GmbH</p> <p>Quartz, silicon, and ceramic for semiconductors</p> <p>Majority sale to</p> <p>Wietersdorfer</p>	<p>UK UAE Aug 2023</p> <p>SHIPSERV</p> <p>Maritime e-procurement platform</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>marcura BACKED BY MARLIN EQUITY PARTNERS</p>	<p>AU DE Dec 2022</p> <p>camplify</p> <p>Travel P2P marketplace</p> <p>€30m acquisition of</p> <p>PaulCamper MARKET LEADER IN GERMANY</p>	<p>UK US Nov 2022</p> <p>AVVIO</p> <p>Hotel technology platform driving direct bookings</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>SHR BACKED BY Serent CAPITAL</p>	<p>UK NO Sep 2024</p> <p>CYBEROWL</p> <p>Maritime software company</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>DNV</p>
<p>BG IE US Mar 2024</p> <p>GemSeek</p> <p>Data science & analytics provider for CX transformation</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>accenture</p>	<p>UK UK Mar 2022</p> <p>worksmart</p> <p>Regtech SaaS solution</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>Davies</p>	<p>UK UK Oct 2021</p> <p>cloudtrade</p> <p>Data extraction & document automation SaaS ML platform</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>advanced People. Partnership. Solutions.</p>	<p>NO CA Sep 2021</p> <p>Safran</p> <p>Project management and risk analysis software</p> <p>Sale to</p> <p>JDM Technology Group</p>	<p>NL US Sep 2021</p> <p>LOGINVSI</p> <p>Application testing software</p> <p>Majority sale to</p> <p>WAVECREST GROWTH PARTNERS</p>

Growth financing across software, deeptech and digital services

<p>US US Apr 2025</p> <p>mPower TECHNOLOGY</p> <p>Satellite silicon solar cell technology</p> <p>\$24m+ Series B financing</p> <p>RAZOR'S EDGE</p> <p>SHIELD CAPITAL</p> <p>LOCKHEED MARTIN</p>	<p>UK JP Mar 2025</p> <p>Alloyed</p> <p>Digital additive manufacturing and alloy development platform</p> <p>\$47m Series B financing</p> <p>DBJ SPARX OSF</p> <p>REDSTONE AVIVA</p> <p>AngloAmerican</p>	<p>IT UK DE ROW Mar 2025</p> <p>2D PHOTONICS</p> <p>Graphene-based photonic technology</p> <p>€25m Series A funding</p> <p>Frontier IP Group plc NIF</p> <p>cdp JOIN CAPITAL INDACO</p> <p>Sony Innovation Fund Bosch Ventures BOSCH</p>	<p>DK Apr 2024</p> <p>FOUNDERS</p> <p>Venture Capital</p> <p>Fintech single asset secondary sale</p> <p>MULTIPLE INVESTORS</p>	<p>CA US UK ROW Aug 2023</p> <p>photonics</p> <p>Photonicallly networked silicon spin quantum computers</p> <p>\$100m financing</p> <p>Microsoft BCi</p> <p>Amadeus NATIONAL SECURITY INVESTMENT FUND</p> <p>inovia</p>
<p>CH PL LU US Dec 2022</p> <p>clearspace today</p> <p>In-orbit servicing and space debris removal</p> <p>\$29m Series A investment by</p> <p>ctb swisscom VENTURES LUXEMBOURG FUTURE FUND iqt FAKT STAR</p>	<p>UK NO US AE Oct 2022</p> <p>vaarst ROVCO</p> <p>Autonomous subsea robotics technology</p> <p>\$26m+ Series B</p> <p>Legal & General equinor iqt</p> <p>Martlet Foresight</p>	<p>IT US May 2022</p> <p>CRP CRP USA</p> <p>Additive manufacturing services and proprietary composite materials</p> <p>Investment by</p> <p>ITT</p>	<p>UK JP WW Apr 2023</p> <p>zodia CUSTODY</p> <p>Institutional digital asset infrastructure provider</p> <p>\$36m Series A financing</p> <p>SBI scventures by Standard Chartered</p> <p>AND UNDISCLOSED INVESTORS</p>	<p>EU UK FR Mar 2023</p> <p>SIPEARL</p> <p>High-end CPU for AI applications</p> <p>€115m Series A financing</p> <p>European Investment Bank European Innovation Council FUND EVIDEN an airoc business arm FRANCE 2030</p>
<p>IT WW Jan 2022</p> <p>D-ORBIT</p> <p>In-space services and satellite transport</p> <p>€51.5m pre-SPAC convertible bond by</p> <p>COBHAM iqt IN-Q-TEL & OTHER INVESTORS</p>	<p>UK UK Jun 2021</p> <p>Origami POWER OVER ENERGY</p> <p>Trading and automation SaaS for renewable energy</p> <p>£20m investment led by</p> <p>BARCLAYS</p>	<p>UK LU, US Feb 2021</p> <p>isotropic systems</p> <p>Satellite antenna technology</p> <p>\$40m investment by</p> <p>SES BOEING HORIZON</p>	<p>UK EU Oct 2020</p> <p>VNOVA</p> <p>Video compression solutions</p> <p>\$33m investment by</p> <p>INVESTMENT FIRMS & TECH ENTREPRENEURS</p>	<p>UK US Sep 2020</p> <p>ZOOMM</p> <p>Fibre broadband network operator</p> <p>£100m investment by</p> <p>OAKTREE</p>

The background of the slide features a dark, textured area on the left with various colored bokeh lights (blue, orange, purple, red) and a network diagram consisting of small dots connected by thin lines. A solid blue rectangular box covers the right two-thirds of the slide, containing the quote and attribution.

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Silverpeak's global reach and deep sector expertise were invaluable in securing high-quality strategic investors. Their guidance helped us articulate our equity story to a sophisticated investor base, and we're grateful for their support in navigating this milestone transaction.

KEVIN HELL, PRESIDENT & CEO, MPOWER TECHNOLOGY



SILVERPEAK

Silverpeak LLP
123 Victoria Street,
London, SW1E 6DE, UK

+44 (0) 20 7529 5400
london@silverpeakib.com
silverpeakib.com

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