

PE-backed KnowFully Learning Group recruits Cantor as CEO

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By Iris Dorbian – 28 April 2020

KnowFully Learning Group, which is backed by NexPhase Capital Partners, has named Eric Cantor as CEO. His appointment is effective immediately. Most recently, Cantor was president and CEO of Paradigm Education Solutions. KnowFully is a provider of continuing professional education and exam preparation courses to the accounting, finance, and healthcare sectors.

PRESS RELEASE

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KnowFully Learning Group (“KnowFully” or the “Company”), a leading provider of continuing professional education and exam preparation courses to the accounting, finance, and healthcare sectors, today announced that Eric Cantor has been selected as the Company’s new Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately. He succeeds Evan Kramer, who stepped down as KnowFully’s CEO earlier this year but remains on the Company’s Board of Directors.

Founded in 1985, KnowFully has been committed to supporting its customers as they prepare for exams, take training courses, and pursue continuing education. The Company is comprised of two brands: Surgent, a leading provider of professional certification and continuing education solutions serving accounting, tax, and financial professionals, and PharmCon, a top-rated provider of continuing education for the pharmacy industry. The Company is backed by NexPhase Capital Partners (“NexPhase”), an operationally-focused, independent private equity firm.

Mr. Cantor has more than 30 years of strategic planning, operating, and M&A experience in the education and professional development industry. Most recently, he served as President and CEO of Paradigm Education Solutions, an education and career services business where he directed the launch of its innovative learning platform, Cirrus. Previously, Mr. Cantor was Chairman and CEO of private-equity backed New Mountain Learning, an education services company that provides classroom management and tools that support instruction. Earlier in his career, he spent six years at the College Board and he has also served as CEO of Kaplan Professional, a division of Kaplan, Inc.

Throughout his career, Mr. Cantor has served on the advisory boards of several small to midsized companies in the not-for-profit and for-profit sectors. Currently, he sits on the advisory boards of Mindprint Learning and Beagle Learning. Mr. Cantor received a BA in history from Haverford College and an MBA in marketing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“It is a unique time to be joining KnowFully and I am excited about the opportunity to be part of an industry-leading learning platform that plays such a vital role in our clients’ professional

career development,” stated Mr. Cantor. “Now more than ever, clients are turning to KnowFully’s solutions, and I look forward to working closely with the management team and NexPhase to build upon the Company’s impressive trajectory and serve more professionals at every experience level.”

Stephen Hoffman, Executive Chairman of the Board at KnowFully said, “We are pleased to have an executive of Eric Cantor’s caliber and experience join the dedicated KnowFully team. He has had great success growing businesses organically and through targeted acquisitions and has demonstrated leadership across various economic cycles. We all look forward to working with him and trust he is the right person to navigate through the current health crisis, while positioning the company for continued short-term growth and long-term success.”

“We are committed to supporting KnowFully as a leader in the industry and believe that Eric’s proven track record and experience make him uniquely qualified to lead the Company through this period of uncertainty, and in its next chapter of growth and development,” said Joel Killion, Partner at NexPhase. “He is a widely-respected industry veteran committed to innovation in the education space, and we are confident that he will further enhance KnowFully’s offering and provide timely and topical solutions to professionals around the world.”

About KnowFully

Founded in 1985 as Surgent McCoy CPE, LLC, the KnowFully Learning Group now provides continuing professional education and exam preparation courses to the accounting, finance, and healthcare sectors. KnowFully’s brands help exam takers become credentialed, satisfy required credit hours to maintain credentials, and remain informed on the latest trends in their industries thereafter. For more information, please visit <https://www.knowfully.com>.

About NexPhase

NexPhase Capital (“NPC”) is a thematic and operationally-focused private equity firm that invests in lower middle market growth-oriented companies within three distinct sectors: consumer, healthcare, and software & services. The firm partners with companies that have reached a growth inflection point and are seeking a value-added partner to help navigate the company’s “next phase.” The NPC team has extensive industry and operational experience and NPC’s partners have invested together for nearly a decade. The firm has completed nearly 60 investments including add-ons and targets control equity investments between \$25 million and \$75 million. For more information, please visit <https://www.NexPhase.com>.