

Ohio Midwest invests \$8M in local equity fund

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The Ohio Midwest Fund said Thursday that it has invested \$8 million in a private equity fund located in Cincinnati.

Strength Capital Partners II is one of five Ohio funds to receive an investment from the Ohio Midwest Fund, a \$51 million fund-of-funds established by the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and **Credit Suisse Bank** (NYSE: CSR).

Ohio Midwest said in a news release that it invests in funds that focus on making capital investments in Ohio and the Midwest. It selected the fund from 30 submissions after a review process.

"The five Ohio funds selected thus far represent a unique mix of venture capital, growth capital and buyout funds with proven records of strong performance in various industries, ranging from life sciences to manufacturing to high technology," said Mike Arpey, managing director of Credit Suisse's Customized Fund Investment Group.

Strength Capital Partners II invests in middle-market private companies with annual revenues of \$10 million to \$100 million. The fund, based in Birmingham, Mich., recently relocated a managing partner to Cincinnati and opened a local office.

The other four Ohio funds selected for investment are: **Riverside Micro-Cap Fund**, **Draper Triangle Ventures II**, **Triathlon Medical Ventures** and **Blue Point Capital Partners**.