

# Same-day distribution firm CitySprint acquires Dorset courier

Same-day distribution company CitySprint has acquired a Dorset courier for an undisclosed sum. The takeover of Blandford Forum-based Astral Couriers is the second acquisition of the year for CitySprint, which is part of DPDgroup, and headquartered in Surrey.

It follows the recently announced purchase of Manchester courier business EcoSpeed.

Astral was established in 1995 as a single van company and now offers couriers services nationwide and across the world. CitySprint, which has a fleet of more than 3,500 vehicles, said the acquisition deal would see it "further strengthen" its presence in the West Country.

Astral's customers will now be able access to CitySprint's same-day delivery network, which the firms says is able to reach more than 88% of mainland UK within 60 minutes.

Gary West, CitySprint chief executive, said: "We are delighted to have completed the acquisition of Astral and look forward to welcoming their team to the CitySprint family. Astral enjoys a strong reputation in the Dorset and South West region. And as our second acquisition this year, it represents another important step in our growth strategy."

Mr West said it would be "very much business as usual" for Astral's customers, with no changes to current service or account contacts. He added: " They can now enjoy access to our wider courier network and nationwide logistics service offering."

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