

Deal alert.



In brief:

Adviser to Octopus Ventures on their £8.5 million Series B funding round to Wazoku to support their continued growth.

“Wazoku has built an impressive AI platform that is valued by some of the world’s largest organisations. With an excellent management team, the support of Octopus and other investors, the next phase of growth looks very exciting. We were delighted to support the Octopus team once again on this deal.”

Dan James, Director at Wilson Partners

Who:

Founded in 2011, London-based Wazoku works with global enterprises such as NASA, Enel, HSBC and Shell to help them innovate at scale. It will use the funding to drive R&D across its product suite, as well as further internationalisation, acquisitions and the management of hyperscale growth over the next two years.

What:

Wilson Partners Corporate Finance provided financial and tax due diligence and deal support for Octopus Ventures.

A platform for growth

Deal overview:

Wilson Partners Corporate Finance was delighted to support Octopus Ventures with financial and tax due diligence for its £8.5m investment to help support continued growth of Wazoku. Alongside the investment from Octopus Ventures, Wazoku also announced the acquisition of the Danish collective intelligence platform, Mindpool, a research spinout that captures actionable employee insight to improve company performance.

“In a world in which volatility and complexity are increasing and the nature of work and talent are drastically changing, it is critical that organisations develop the capability and capacity to think and act differently when it comes to change and innovation” said Rich Bolton, Octopus Ventures. “We have been impressed with the vision of the Wazoku team to help drive impact and innovation by creating a true operating system for innovation at scale. We back ambitious founders with a bold vision to change the world and are excited to support Wazoku in this next stage of their growth.”

About the parties:

Founded in 2011, Wazoku facilitates digital communication between workspaces and contains a suite of products used for tasks such as talent scouting and supply chain management. The platform is currently used by global enterprises such as NASA, Enel, HSBC and Shell to help them innovate at scale.

Newly acquired Mindpool captures employee thoughts and predictions and provides actionable insights and ideas based on this collective intelligence, all geared to improving organisational performance and assessing overall company health using quantitative and qualitative data inputs.

Octopus Ventures invest in the people, the ideas and the industries that will help change the world. Their investment team is built to specialise in the five areas where they see the most potential for growth and innovation: health, fintech, deep tech, consumer and B2B software. Since 2008 they have backed over 130 teams, including Zoopla Property Group, Secret Escapes, Depop and Cazoo.

With £2 billion under management and investing over £200 million a year, Octopus Ventures is one of the largest and most active venture investors in Europe. They tend to invest from £1 million for Seed to £10 million for Series B with the ability to fund the companies backed right through to IPO.