

COMMERCE

Stoli Group names new CEO in leadership shuffle

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As Damian McKinney departs from the top position, a multitude of changes are taking place. Image credit: Stoli Group

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Global spirits brand Stoli Group is changing up its executive roles.

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Naming Chris Caldwell as global CEO of the company, Stoli Group is tapping internal talents and external leaders alike for other appointments. Artem Pozdnyakov and Mark Federighi will now serve as chief financial officer and president of North America, respectively, supporting the new head of the international group.

"As an integral member of the Stoli Group executive team, Chris has proven time and again that he has the strategic & financial acumen, as well as the leadership skills needed in today's CEO," said Yuri Shefler, founder and owner of **Stoli**, in a statement.

"Ensuring continuity of leadership, Chris and Artem, will play pivotal roles as we look to further diversify through acquisitions and brand expansion," Mr. Shefler said. "We are beyond thrilled that Mark will be joining them in support of our aggressive growth goals."

New leads

Each appointment is aimed at ensuring future goals go forth smoothly.

Mr. Caldwell is poised to lead the group through "growth and acquisitions," per statements from Stoli Group, drawing on his industry savvy. He most recently served as CFO for three years, working closely with the newly-promoted Mr. Pozdnyakov, who was the global financial controller.

The CEO has also held a multitude of private equity and consulting leadership roles across businesses on an international scale.

His experience is focused on business performance, leveraging streamlined organization and financial pivots to improve shareholder value, with successful transformation touted as his strong suit.

Mr. Pozdnyakov, his CFO replacement, came to Stoli Group in 2022. Before his duties at the beverage brand, he served as CFO at DTEK Renewables International and a board member of a handful of Dutch holding companies.

The appointee has managed acquisitions, mergers, due diligence, corporate finance, liquidity and markets, ESG strategy Stoli Group has been taking on timely causes in the wake of current crises ([see story](#)) and treasury. His other experiences include acting as a liaison to credit and banking organizations.

Mr. Federighi is an outside hire, coming from the spirits and wine world.

Previously, he served as chief sales officer at O'Neill Vintners and Distillers, one of the largest wineries in the United States, taking charge of expansion and increased development efforts. The regional leader is now tasked with heading Stoli Group's North American sales, operations executives and marketing, all newly aligned.

"The past few years at Stoli Group have been incredibly rewarding, and I am immensely proud of the value that I created as CFO," said Mr. Caldwell, in a statement.

"I am honored to work alongside Artem, Mark and the rest of the leadership team as we begin a new journey of innovation and expansion for Stoli Group," he said. "We are ready to hit the ground running."

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