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Harrison Street has added two seasoned professionals to its European asset management and transaction teams.

Amy Tonnessen, former senior asset manager at Franklin Templeton Investments, has joined the firm as a director on the European asset management team, and Vanisha Thakrar, who was previously a senior associate in the real estate investment group of the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB), has joined the firm as a vice president in the transactions group. Both Tonnessen and Thakrar are based in the firm's London office.

Prior to joining Harrison Street, Tonnessen was a senior asset manager at Franklin Templeton Investments, where she was responsible for the management of European properties and for overseeing joint venture investments. Before joining Franklin Templeton, Tonnessen was a senior asset manager at Heitman in Europe and worked on investments across multiple geographies and property sectors, including self-storage and senior housing.

And Thakrar was at CPPIB before joining Harrison Street, where she worked on establishing joint ventures, underwriting new investments and managing CPPIB's existing investments. In addition, Thakrar served on the boards of directors for various joint venture companies and as a board observer for CPPIB's student housing platform. Prior to joining CPPIB, Thakrar was a vice president on the real estate investment banking team at Macquarie, where she focused on M&A transactions, capital raising and principal investments.