

## Print Coverage

Bengaluru-based company acquires Monster.com India

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The company, Quess Corp., is an integrated business services provider

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
BENGALURU

Quess Corp., an integrated business services provider with 49.02% of equity being held by Thomas Cook India, announced on Wednesday it has acquired online career and recruitment firm Monster.com India for \$7.5 million and HCL Computing Products for ₹30 crore.

Further, through holding company Quesscorp Holdings Pte Ltd, the Bengaluru-based company will acquire Monster.com SG Pte, Monster.com HK and Monster Malaysia Sdn Bhd for \$6.5 million, according to a regulatory filing.

“The transaction is expected to close in the next few weeks,” says the filing.

Quess was founded by Ajit Issac, CEO and Executive Director of the company who owns a 12.09% stake. The company was acquired by Thomas Cook in 2013. In 2012, Fairfax Financial Holdings, controlled by Toronto-based Indian-born billionaire Prem Watsa, had acquired Thomas Cook.

“The acquisition of Monster is aligned with our ‘Digital First strategy business’

and is a strategic investment,” said Mr. Issac in a statement. The acquisition of the care business service of HCL Systems ‘makes our entry into high growth fix for smartphones, consumer durables, and pan-India presence’.

### **Acquisitions since 2008**

Since 2008, Quess has acquired stakes in at least two dozen companies. In November 2017, it agreed to buy a 51% stake in the business outsourcing arm of Tata Group. In October the same year, the company bought a 70% stake in Vedang Cellular Services for about ₹40 crore.

In 2016, it acquired stakes in Randstad Lanka, Comtel Solutions, Terrier Security Services, Indicore VJP and Manipal Integrated Services.

The Bengaluru-headquartered company, with offices in North America, West Asia and South East Asia, serves about 1,700 customers across four segments – global technology solutions, people and services, integrated facility management and industrials.