

## Natus goes private for \$1.2bn



[Elizabeth Cairns](#)

At \$1.2bn, the sale of Natus Medical to Archimed is the largest private equity acquisition in the device space so far this year, just pipping [IBM's divestment of Watson Health](#) to Francisco Partners in January. Archimed does not seem to have paid over the odds – the \$33.50 cash per share offer comes in at a 29% premium to the closing price on April 14. But Natus, which makes devices to screen infants for hearing impairment as well as other neurological disorders such as epilepsy, has had a rocky time over the past decade or so; its revenue growth has been bumpy and it has been lossmaking for four of the past five years. Moreover, thanks to the logistical woes [plaguing the medtech sector](#), Natus said it had been hit by \$3.4m of “extraordinary supply chain costs” when trying to get hold of semiconductors. With that in mind, the takeout is a bit of a coup for the group’s chief executive. Tom Sullivan has only been in place since December and initially planned to restructure Natus in an attempt to push annual revenue growth to 5% or more. A clean takeout could prove palatable to shareholders.

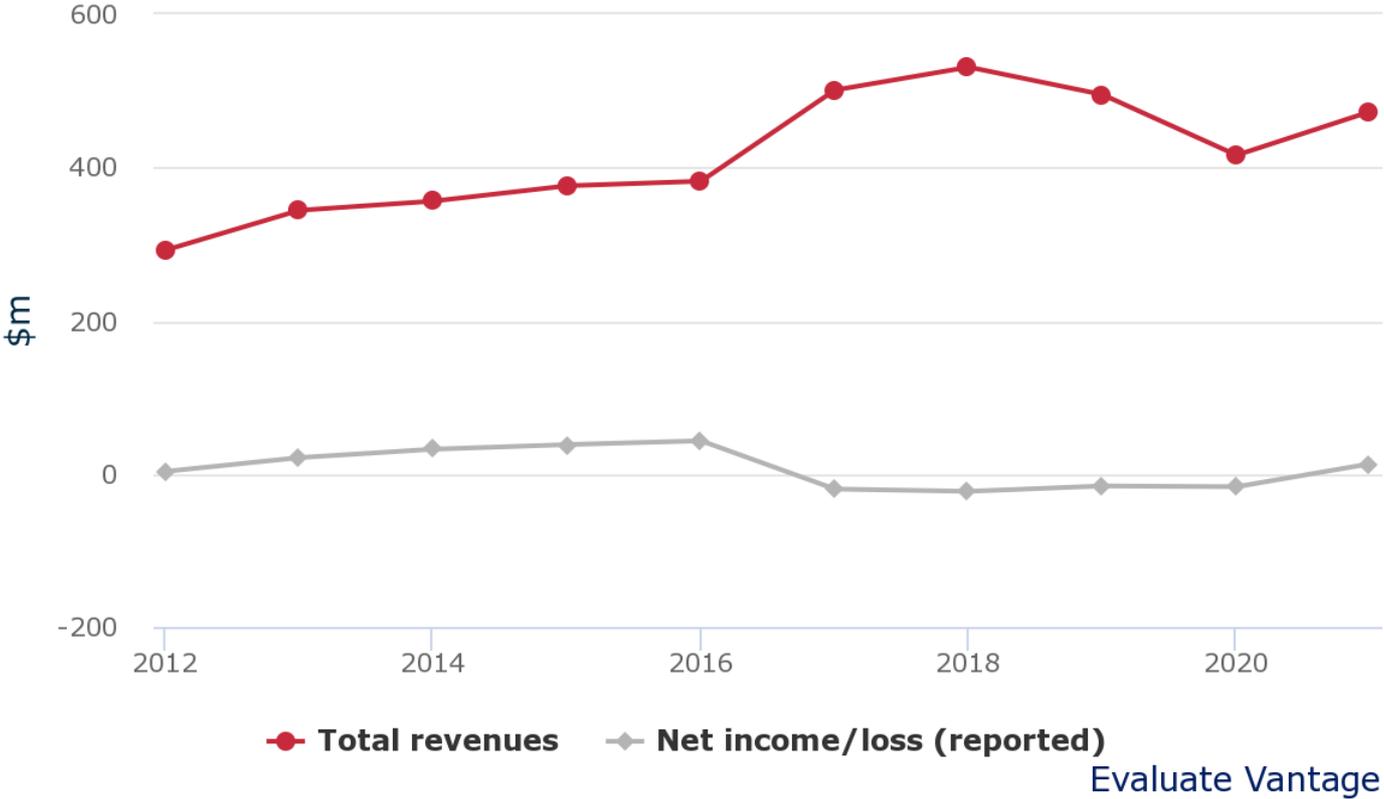
### Top 5 private equity medtech deals of the past 5 years

Announcement Date	Acquirer	Target	Value (\$bn)	Focus
Nov 2018	Veritas Capital & Elliott Management	Athenahealth	5.7	General hospital & healthcare supply; healthcare IT
Aug 2021	TA Associates	Smiths Medical subsidiary of Smiths Group	2.3	Anaesthesia & respiratory; patient monitoring
Jun 2018	Platinum Equity	LifeScan, subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson	2.1	Diabetes care
Apr 2022	Archimed	Natus Medical	1.2	Patient monitoring
Jun 2018	CDH Investments	Sirtex Medical	1.1	Radiology

Source: Evaluate Medtech, company websites.

# Natus's financial performance

Revenue and profit over the past decade



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