

Chris Chakford on Democratizing Access to Alternative Investments for Independent Advisors

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Doral, Florida Apr 7, 2025 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - According to [Chris Chakford, Founder and CEO of Divergent Capital Asset Management](#), one of the most significant opportunities for independent advisors lies in alternative investments – an asset class long dominated by institutional investors but now becoming more accessible to private wealth managers.

Chakford and his firm make these investments turnkey for independent advisors, enabling them to offer private equity, private credit, and real estate opportunities without the traditional barriers. Through a fully managed solution that includes fund structuring, legal compliance, and operations, independent financial professionals can now provide their clients with institutional-grade alternative investments while building their branded investment funds.

Why Alternative Investments?

Alternative investments have traditionally been the domain of pension funds, endowments, and hedge funds, mainly due to their complexity and regulatory challenges. However, with increasing market volatility and lower expected returns from traditional asset classes, high-net-worth investors are turning toward private markets for diversification and enhanced performance.

According to Chakford, alternative investments such as private equity and private credit offer benefits that traditional investments cannot. “The stock market is cyclical, and bond yields have struggled recently. Investors seek solutions that offer stability, growth, and income generation outside public markets. That’s where private equity, private credit, and real estate come in,” he explains.

Bringing Institutional-Quality Investments to Independent Advisors

Historically, independent financial advisors and Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs) lacked the infrastructure to offer alternative investments compliantly and operationally efficiently. Divergent Capital Asset Management solves this problem by handling every aspect of fund creation and management – from sourcing deals to structuring funds, legal documentation, and back-office operations.

“We’re not just giving advisors access to alternative investments – we’re creating an entire branded fund for them,” says Chris Chakford. “Instead of being limited to off-the-shelf investment products, independent advisors can now have their own private equity, credit, or real estate fund, fully managed under their name.”

This approach gives independent advisors a significant competitive advantage, allowing them to attract new clients and retain existing ones with bespoke investment solutions tailored to their client base. “Advisors want to stand out, and the ability to offer a proprietary alternative investment fund is a game-changer,” Chakford adds.

A Complete, Turnkey Solution

One of the biggest hurdles to independent advisors entering the alternative investment space has been the complexity of setting up and managing a fund. From regulatory compliance to due diligence, fund operations require expertise that many independent professionals lack the resources to cope with.

Chakford’s firm removes these barriers by handling everything behind the scenes. “We take care of fund operations, compliance, reporting – everything from A to Z,” he says. “The advisor doesn’t need to worry about legal structures or fund administration. They get to focus on what they do best: serving their clients and growing their business.”

This end-to-end service simplifies the process and ensures that advisors maintain complete control over their investment offerings without taking on unnecessary risks or operational burdens.

A New Era for Financial Advisors

[Chris Chakford](#) sees this shift as part of a broader movement within the financial industry – in which independent advisors take more control over their investment solutions rather than relying on third-party asset managers.

“For too long, independent advisors have been boxed into using products created by large financial institutions,” he explains. “By providing them with the ability to create their own branded alternative investment funds, we’re giving them the same tools that institutional players have been using for decades.”

The demand for alternative investments has never been greater, and advisors who can offer these solutions will be well-positioned for the future. Chakford says, “Investors are looking for something beyond stocks and bonds. They want exposure to private markets and to work with an advisor who can provide expertise and access. With our model, independent advisors no longer have to turn to outside funds - they can offer their own.”

About Chris Chakford & Divergent Capital Asset Management

Chris Chakford is a seasoned financial expert with nearly three decades of experience in investment management, private markets, and financial advisory services. As the Founder and CEO of Divergent Capital Asset Management, he specializes in helping independent advisors, RIAs, and family offices access institutional-grade alternative investments. His firm provides a fully managed, end-to-end solution, allowing financial professionals to create and offer private equity, private credit, and real estate funds.

To learn more, visit: <http://chrischakford.com>

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