

## **Ex-FrontPointer Czech Eyes \$1.5 Billion For New Fund**

Mar 8 2012 | 1:46pm ET

Former star FrontPoint Partners manager Stephen Czech plans to launch his first post-FrontPoint fund this summer with \$1.5 billion—and he's already half-way there.

Czech has raised about \$750 million for his new Czech Asset Management, which he founded earlier this year after spinning his \$1.1 billion FrontPoint-SJC Direct Lending Fund from the now-shuttered former hedge fund giant, *The Wall Street Journal* reports. Many of Czech's previous investors—CAM is his fifth firm in four years—have signed on to the new venture which, like the FrontPoint fund, will focus on direct lending.

One-third of the money committed to Czech's new fund has come from Michigan's state pension fund, which has pledged \$250 million. Even amidst the turmoil, investors stuck by Czech.

"If someone wanted to make a stink, they could have withheld" their money, Czech told the *Journal*. "They didn't."

Czech Capital, which formally spun-off from FrontPoint in January, has eight employees and is based in a "still-undecorated" office in Old Greenwich, Conn.

And despite what one of the new firm's directors, Sze Ling Wan, called a "period of limbo" last year as FrontPoint unraveled in the face of an insider-trading scandal, the SJC fund managed an 11% return, completing about 10 deals.