



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR  
THE 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL M&A AWARDS AT NEW YORK GALA**

**NEW YORK, Dec. 28, 2011** —[The M&A Advisor](#) announced the winners of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual M&A Advisor Awards to a lively, sold-out crowd at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual M&A Awards Gala at the New York Athletic Club on Tuesday December 13. The event was hosted by Bloomberg Television’s Julie Hyman and featured a keynote address by former Massachusetts Governor and leading M&A counsel, William F. Weld.

“The award winners represent the best of the M&A industry in 2011 and earned these honors by standing out in a group of very impressive finalists,” said Roger Aguinaldo, CEO and Founder of The M&A Advisor. “From the lower middle market transaction to the multi-billion Deal of the Year, we are recognizing the leading transactions, firms and individuals that represent the highest levels of performance.”

An independent body of expert judges that span the M&A industry determined the ultimate recipients of the awards. Winners were revealed “Academy-Award style” at the gala.

In addition to the 2011 honorees, leading M&A attorney H. Rodgin Cohen, Senior Chairman of Sullivan & Cromwell, was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award. In what has become a tradition at the annual black-tie gala, the M&A Advisor inducted 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, Harvey Miller and Bruce Rauner, of Weil Gotshal and GTCR, respectively, in addition to H. Rodgin Cohen. 2011 International M&A Leadership Award Recipients Howard Morgan and Andrew Rice, of The Jordan Company and Castle Harlan, respectively, were also inducted into the M&A Advisor Hall of Fame.

The gala is the premier celebration of the year for the industry’s leading Dealmakers. The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards was held in conjunction with the 2011 M&A Advisor Summit that featured over 400 of the industry’s leading M&A professionals participating in exclusive interactive forums led by over 65 M&A, media, academic, and political stalwarts. M&A in the BRIC’s; US Financial Reform – Dodd Frank, the Volcker Rule and the Future of Banking; the Eurozone Crisis and The Great M&A Debate on the Global Economic Outlook were just some of the key feature sessions.

**THE M&A ADVISOR**

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## **I. Major Transaction of the Year Categories**

### **Upper Middle-Market Deal of the Year (From \$400 million up to \$1 Billion)**

#### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Marquis Jets Holdings, Inc. by NetJets Inc.  
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Bank of America Leasing & Capital LLC  
Barnes & Thornberg, LLP  
Evins Communications, Ltd.  
Holland & Knight, LLP  
Jefferies & Company, Inc.  
Kaye Scholer LLP  
Marquis Jet Holdings, Inc.  
NetJets Inc  
Vedder Price & Reed Smith

### **Middle-Market Deal of the Year (From \$250 million to under \$400 million)**

#### **WINNER**

- Chapter 11 Reorganization of Sea Launch LLC and Sale to Energia Overseas Limited  
Buccino & Associates, Inc  
Alston & Bird LLP  
Avicon Partnership  
Energia Overseas Limited  
Jefferies & Company, Inc.  
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, LLP  
Salans LLP  
Sea Launch Company

### **Middle-Market Deal of the Year (Between \$100 Million to under \$250 million)**

#### **WINNER**

- Buyout and Merger of hybris AG and iCongo Inc. sponsored by HuntsmanGay Global Capital  
Seward & Kissel LLP  
Bentley Associates L.P.  
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin  
Homburger AG  
HuntsmanGay Global Capital  
Hybris AG  
Kirkland & Ellis  
Wenger & Vieli Ltd.

**Lower Middle-Market Deal of the Year (from \$50 million to under \$100 million)**

**WINNER**

- Acquisition of the Cosmopolis , WA Mill by The Gores Group from Weyerhaeuser  
The Gores Group  
Dsmurfit  
McKinsey & Company  
Van Ness Feldman  
Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP  
Weyerhaeuser

**Lower Middle-Market Deal of the Year (over \$25 million to under \$50 million)**

**WINNER**

- Acquisition of Farm Lands of Guinea Limited by Kryptic Entertainment Inc. (subsequently Renamed "Farm Lands of Guinea, Inc.").  
Hunter Wise Financial Group, LLC  
Child, Van Wagoner & Bradshaw CPAs  
Farm Lands of Guinea, Inc.  
Guzov Ofsink, LLC  
Law Offices of Thomas E. Puzzo, PLLC  
Kryptic Entertainment Inc.

**Lower Middle-Market Deal of the Year (up to \$25 million)**

**WINNER**

- Sale of US Motorsports Corporation/ the Iowa Speedway  
Capstone Partners LLC  
Barokas Public Relations  
Clifton Gunderson, LLP  
Iowa Speedway  
Manaco, dba Manatts (Speedway seller)  
USMC Corporation  
Whitfield & Eddy PLC

**Cross-Border Deal of the Year (\$200 Million and Over)**

**WINNER**

- Acquisition of Great White Energy Services by Archer Limited  
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Archer Limited  
Credit Suisse  
Ernst & Young  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Wexford Capital

### **Cross-Border Deal of the Year (Under \$200 Million)**

#### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Farm Lands of Guinea Limited by Kryptic Entertainment Inc. Hunter Wise Financial Group, LLC  
Child, Van Wagoner & Bradshaw CPAs  
Farm Lands of Guinea, Inc.  
Guzov Ofsink, LLC  
Kryptic Entertainment Inc.  
Law Offices of Thomas E. Puzzo, PLLC

### **Magnus Deal of the Year (\$10 Billion and over)**

#### **WINNER**

- Initial Public Offering of General Motors Jenner & Block  
Davis Polk & Wardwell  
Deloitte  
Evercore Partner  
General Motors Company  
JPMorgan  
Morgan Stanley

### **Magnus Deal of the Year (\$3 Billion to \$10 Billion)**

#### **WINNER**

- Merger of Liberty Acquisition Holdings Corp. (NYSE/AMEX: LIA) and Promotora de Informaciones (Madrid: PRS) Liberty Acquisition Holdings Corp  
Garrigues  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Promotora de Informaciones  
Tegris Advisors  
Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz  
Violy & Co

### **Magnus Deal of the Year (\$1 Billion to under \$3 Billion)**

#### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of a Controlling Interest in Massmart Holdings Limited by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. Edward Nathan Sonnenbergs (ENS)  
Deloitte & Touche  
Deutsche Securities (SA)  
Ernst & Young  
JP Morgan Securities LLC  
Massmart Holdings Limited  
N M Rothschild & Sons  
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.  
Webber Wentzel

## **Magnus Cross-border Deal of the Year (Over \$1 Billion US)**

### **WINNER**

- Sale of Burger King Holdings, Inc. to 3G Capital Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Kirkland & Ellis

## **Financing Deal of the Year (over \$100 Million)**

### **WINNER**

- Initial Public Offering of General Motors Jenner & Block  
Davis Polk & Wardwell  
Deloitte  
Evercore Partner  
General Motors Company  
JPMorgan  
Morgan Stanley

## **Financing Deal of the Year (under \$100 Million)**

### **WINNER**

- Sale of US Motorsports Corporation (the Iowa Speedway) Capstone Partners LLC  
Barokas Public Relations  
Clifton Gunderson  
Iowa Speedway  
Manaco, dba Manatts  
USMC Corporation  
Whitfield & Eddy PLC

## **Turnaround Deal of the Year (over \$250 million)**

### **WINNER**

- Merger of Liberty Acquisition Holdings Corp. (NYSE/AMEX:LIA) and Promotora de Informaciones (Madrid: PRS) Liberty Acquisition Holdings Corp  
Garrigues  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Promotora de Informaciones  
Tegris Advisors  
Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz  
Violy & Co

## **Turnaround Deal of the Year (up to \$250 million)**

### **WINNER**

- 363 Bankruptcy Sale, Turnaround and Restructuring of Classic Brands  
Executive Sounding Board Associates Inc.  
Classic Brands LLC  
Cole Taylor Bank  
Miles & Stockbridge P.C  
Herman Law LLC  
Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Porody & Ecker, PPA.  
Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP  
The CIT Group - CIT Commercial Services

## **II. Dealmaker of the Year Category**

### **Male Dealmaker of the Year**

#### **WINNER**

- Robert Townsend, Morrison & Foerster LLP

### **Woman Dealmaker of the Year**

#### **WINNER**

Marie L. Gibson, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP

## **III. Sector Transaction of the Year Categories**

### **Information Technology (\$100 million and over)**

#### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of SRA International, Inc. by Providence Equity  
Houlihan Lokey  
Bank of America  
Citygroup  
CSP Associate, Inc.  
Debevoise & Plimpton  
Kirkland & Ellis  
Providence Equity  
SRA International, Inc.

## **Information Technology (under \$100 million)**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Procon and Enfotrace by Bertram Capital  
Bertram Capital  
Egerton, McAfee, Armistead & Davis, PC  
McGladrey  
Morgan Joseph TriArtisan, LLC  
ProconGPS, Inc.  
Wilson Sonsini

## **Healthcare/Life Sciences**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of drugstore.com by Walgreens  
Sonenshine Partners

## **Industrial Manufacturing/Distribution (\$250 Million and over)**

### **WINNER**

- Out-of-Court Restructuring of PlayPower, Inc.  
Miller Buckfire & Co., LLC  
Apollo Investment Management  
PlayPower, Inc  
UBS AG  
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

## **Industrial Manufacturing/Distribution (\$50 Million to under \$250 Million)**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Interstate Distributor Co. by Saltchuck Resources, Inc.  
Cascadia Capital, LLC  
Brent L. Jones  
Davies Pearson  
Garvey Schubert Barer  
Interstate Distributors  
McGavick Graves PS  
Saltchuk Resource, Inc.

## **Industrial Manufacturing/Distribution (under \$50 Million)**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Valves Business From HIM Tech, Korea by The Weir Group

Business Development Asia, LLC  
 Bae, Kim & Lee (BKL)  
 HIM Tech Co.  
 PwC  
 The Weir Group Plc

## **Financial Services**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Emerging Sovereign Group by The Carlyle Group

Seward & Kissel LLP  
 Emerging Sovereign Group  
 Gleacher & Company  
 Mesirow Financial  
 Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP  
 The Carlyle Group

## **Consumer Services**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Jumer's Casino & Hotel by Delaware North Companies Gaming & Entertainment, Inc.

Innovation Capital, LLC

## **Media, Entertainment or Telecom**

### **WINNER**

- Merger of Liberty Acquisition Holdings Corp. (NYSE/AMEX: LIA) and Promotora de Informaciones (Madrid: PRS)

Liberty Acquisition Holdings Corp  
 Garrigues  
 Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
 Promotora de Informaciones  
 Tegris Advisors  
 Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz  
 Violy & Co



## **Energy**

### **WINNER**

- Sale of Summit Energy Services, Inc. to Schneider Electric SA      Robert W. Baird & Co.

## **Industrial Goods and Basic Resources**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Farm Lands of Guinea Limited by Kryptic Entertainment Inc.      Hunter Wise Financial Group, LLC  
Child, Van Wagoner & Bradshaw CPAs  
Farm Lands of Guinea, Inc.  
Guzov Ofsink, LLC  
Law Offices of Thomas E. Puzzo, PLLC

## **Retail Manufacturing/Distribution (\$50 million and over)**

### **WINNER**

- Sale of Prime Distribution Services, Inc. to Road Runner Transportation Systems, Inc. (NYSE:RRTS)      BB&T Capital Markets  
Baker Daniels  
Deloitte & Touche  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
HCI Equity  
Mason Wells  
Prime Distribution Services, Inc.  
Roadrunner Transportation Systems

## **Retail Manufacturing/Distribution (under \$50 million)**

### **WINNER**

- Recapitalization of Kiosk Information Systems by Alerion Capital Group      McGladrey Capital Markets, LLC  
Faegre & Benson LLP  
Kaplan & Associates

## **Consumer and Retail Products (\$250 Million and Over)**

## **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Acushnet Company by Fila Korea Ltd. and Mirae Asset Private Equity  
McDermott Will & Emery  
Chadbourne & Parke LLP  
Fila Korea  
Fortune Brands, Inc.  
Korea Development Bank  
Mirae Asset Private Equity  
Morgan Stanley  
Nomura  
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

## **Consumer and Retail Products (\$50 Million to Under \$250 Million)**

### **WINNER**

- Recapitalization of Merrick Pet Care by Swander Pace Capital  
JD Ford & Company  
Kirkland & Ellis  
KPMG  
Merrick Pet Care  
Sprouse Law  
Swander Pace Capital  
Wells Fargo Bank

## **Consumer and Retail Products (Under \$50 Million)**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Midwest Hydroponic and Homebrewing Supplies, Inc. by Adirondack Growth Capital LLC, Bosworth Capital Partners, LLC  
Generational Equity, LLC  
Adirondack Growth Capital, LLC  
Anchor Bank, National Association  
Baker Tilly  
Gary R. Nylund & Associates, LTD  
Horwood Marcus & Berk Chartered  
Lindquist & Vennum PLLP  
Midwest Hydroponic

## **Professional Services (B-to-B)**

### **WINNER**

- Acquisition of Procon and Enfotrace by Bertram Capital  
Bertram Capital  
Egerton, McAfee, Armistead & Davis, PC  
McGladrey  
Morgan Joseph TriArtisan, LLC  
ProconGPS, Inc.  
Wilson Sonsini

### **III. Firm of the Year Categories**

#### **Private Equity**

##### **WINNER**

- High Road Capital Partners

#### **Investment Banking**

##### **WINNER**

- Robert W. Baird & Co.

#### **Boutique Investment Banking (Less Than 20 Employees)**

##### **WINNER**

- Financial Technology Partners

#### **Law Firm**

##### **WINNER**

- Morrison & Foerster LLP

#### **Valuation Firm**

##### **WINNER**

- Houlihan Lokey

#### **M&A Consulting/Advisory Service**

##### **WINNER**

- Generational Equity, LLC

### **IV. M&A Product/Service of the Year Category**

## **WINNER**

- S&P Capital IQ

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