



U.S.A • Middle Markets

CONGRATULATIONS

LEADERS & DEALMAKERS
OUTSTANDING FIRM *of the* YEAR
DEAL *of the* YEAR

WINNERS CIRCLE • 2023

April 28, 2023: Washington DC. Global M&A Network honored the winners of the 5th Annual USA M&A Awards at the privately hosted gala and dinner ceremony, returning to Mayflower Hotel.

“We honored the successes of top performing leaders and dealmakers; and congratulate them on their vision and excellence for executing value-creating transactions. We wish them continued success for the year ahead.” Shanta Kumari, CEO and Global Group Editor, at Global M&A Network.

GREG LONGSTREET, President & CEO, Del Monte Foods, SCOTT JOHNSON, Founder & CEO of SJ Partners, and SCOTT MOSS, Partner, at Cherry Bekaert Advisory were recipients of the “Leadership Achievement Award, along with dealmaker award recipients DAVID FERGUSON, Executive Managing Director, Generational Group, DAVID MAYER Founding Member, EVP, Chair, M&A Group, Dvorak Law Group and JOHN HILL Jr. Co-Founder, Senior Managing Director, Hyde Park Capital Advisors.

about:

World’s most prestigious, the independently governed M&A Atlas Awards singularly honors excellence in the categories of firms, deals, dealmakers, and leaders.

Global M&A Network is a diversified information media and events connecting company; as well as the producer of world’s most coveted – M&A Atlas Awards, Turnaround Atlas Awards and Top Woman Leaders & Dealmakers Awards from New York, Chicago, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Mumbai, to London.

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CONGRATULATIONS: WINNERS CIRCLE 2023

LEADERS & DEALMAKERS

AWARD *Recipients of the Year*

about the award: Dealmaker team awards are presented to seasoned professionals for successfully executing growth transactions, expertise in identifying value-creating transactions, part of awards winning deal and significantly, record of getting the deals done.



GREG LONGSTREET

President & Chief Executive Officer
Del Monte Foods

Recipient Of:

LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Category, Corporate



SCOTT S. JOHNSON

Founder and CEO
SJ Partners

Recipient Of:

LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Category, Private Equity / Investor



SCOTT M. MOSS

Partner, Transaction Advisory Services
Cherry Bekaert Advisory

Recipient Of:

LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Category, M&A Industry

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DEALMAKERS

AWARD *Recipients of the Year*



DAVID FERGUSSON

Executive Managing Director, Head M&A Technology Group
Generational Group

Recipient Of:

INVESTMENT BANKER
of the YEAR AWARD



DAVID MAYER

Founding Member, Executive Vice President, Chair, M&A Group
Dvorak Law Group

Recipient Of:

LAWYER
of the YEAR AWARD



JOHN HILL Jr.

Co-Founder, Senior Managing Director
Hyde Park Capital Advisors

Recipient Of:

**BOUTIQUE
INVESTMENT BANKER**
of the YEAR AWARD

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CONGRATULATIONS: WINNERS CIRCLE 2023

U.S.A OUTSTANDING INVESTORS & LENDERS

PRIVATE EQUITY
INVESTOR *of the YEAR*
WINNER: L Catterton

PRIVATE CREDIT
LENDER *of the YEAR*
WINNER: Audax Private Debt

LBO
LENDER *of the YEAR*
WINNER: MidCap Financial

LENDER *of the YEAR* • LARGE MID-MARKETS
WINNER: Golub Capital

LENDER *of the YEAR* • MID-MARKETS
WINNER: Churchill Asset Management

LENDER *of the YEAR* • LOWER MID-MARKETS
WINNER: Monroe Capital

LENDER *of the YEAR* • SMALL
WINNER: Twin Brook Capital Partners

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CONGRATULATIONS: WINNERS CIRCLE 2023

USA OUTSTANDING M&A ADVISORS

TRANSACTIONS

ADVISOR *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Cherry Bekaert Advisory

INVESTMENT BANK

of the YEAR

WINNER: Capstone Partners

LAW

FIRM *of the* YEAR

WINNER: DLA Piper US

PRIVATE EQUITY

INVESTMENT BANK *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Harris Williams & Co

BOUTIQUE

INVESTMENT BANK *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Carter Morse & Goodrich

TECH • BOUTIQUE

INVESTMENT BANK *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Leonis Partners

ESOP

INVESTMENT BANK *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Prairie Capital Advisors

HEALTHCARE • BOUTIQUE

INVESTMENT BANK *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Provident Healthcare Partners

SOFTWARE • BOUTIQUE

INVESTMENT BANK *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Horizon Partners

LIFE SCIENCE & TECH

LAW FIRM *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Fenwick & West, LLP

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CONGRATULATIONS: WINNERS CIRCLE 2023

DEAL

Award Winners

SMALL MARKETS

DEAL of the YEAR • Small

WINNER: Diversified Search Group acquires Yardstick Management.

Deal Team Winner: Navagant Advisors served as sole financial advisor to Yardstick Management.

DEAL of the YEAR • Small Mid-Market

WINNER: CentralBDC, a portfolio company of SJ Partners acquires Better Car People (BCP).

Deal Team Winner: SJ Partners *Acknowledgement:* Everside Capital Partners, Northcreek Mezzanine, Resolute Capital Partners. provided financing along with Enterprise Bank & Trust provided an incremental senior term loan.

MIDDLE MARKETS

DEAL of the YEAR • Middle Markets

WINNER: Cengage Group acquires InfoSec.

Deal Team Winners: DC Advisory advised InfoSec on the sale, Holland & Knight, LLP served as legal advisor to Cengage.

DEAL of the YEAR • Upper Middle Markets

WINNER: Clearon acquisition by Solenis, a portfolio company of Platinum Equity.

Deal Team Winner: Holland & Knight LLP as legal counsel to Solenis.

DEAL of the YEAR • Large Mid-Markets

WINNER: Lessen strategic acquisition of SMS Assist.

Deal Team Winners: Fenwick & West LLP as legal advisor to Lessen, Monroe Capital as one of the investors in the transaction.

DISTRESSED M&A

DEAL Award Winners

DISTRESSED M&A

DEAL of the YEAR • Middle Markets

WINNER: EYP Group Holdings sale under Chapter 11 of Bankruptcy to Page Southerland Page.

Deal Team Winners: DLA Piper, LLP as bankruptcy counsel to debtor, Carl Marks Advisory as financial advisor to debtor, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry P.C., legal advisor to buyer, and Page Southerland Page.

DISTRESSED M&A

DEAL of the YEAR • Large Middle Markets

WINNER: Ruby Pipeline sale of assets under Chapter 11 of Bankruptcy Tallgrass Energy.

Deal Team Winner: FTI Consulting financial advisor to the debtor.

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CONGRATULATIONS: WINNERS CIRCLE 2023

PRIVATE EQUITY DEAL *Award Winners*

PRIVATE EQUITY DEAL of the YEAR • *Small Markets*

WINNER: WILsquare Capital acquires Entropic, Inc. dba Resident Essentials.

Deal Team Winner: Carter Morse & Goodrich as financial advisor to Resident Essentials.

PRIVATE EQUITY DEAL *of the* YEAR • *Lower Mid Markets*

WINNER: Branford Castle Partners acquires Garlock Pipeline Technologies business unit from EnPro Industries, and concurrently the sale of GPT facility with Tempus Realty.

Deal Team Winner: Capstone Partners

PRIVATE EQUITY DEAL *of the* YEAR • *Mid-Markets*

WINNER: L Catterton acquires LTP Home Services Group.

Deal Team Winner: L Catterton

GROWTH EQUITY DEAL *Award Winners*

GROWTH INVESTMENT DEAL *of the* YEAR • *Small Markets*

WINNER: IcyBreeze Cooling sale of minority equity stake to Corbel Capital Partners.

Deal Team Winners: Generational Group as sell-side financial advisor, and Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP, as legal counsel.

GROWTH INVESTMENT DEAL *of the* YEAR • *Lower Mid-Markets.*

WINNER: Riverside Partners investment in UnisLink.

Deal Team Winner: Leonis Partners

GROWTH INVESTMENT DEAL *of the* YEAR • *Middle Markets*

WINNER: Mobility Market Intelligence ("MMI") investment from WestView Capital Partners.

Deal Team Winner: Horizon Partners as sell-side advisor to MMI, Buchalter PC as the legal counsel.

RECAP DEAL *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Phillip Galyen P.C. d/b/a/ Bailey & Galyen recapitalization by Pravati Capital.

Deal Team Winner: SSG Capital Advisors financial advisor to Phillip Galyen.

FINANCING DEAL *of the* YEAR

WINNER: Capital raise and buyout of minority shareholders of Atlas MedStaff.

Deal Team Winner: Dvorak Law Group

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CORPORATE / STRATEGIC M&A DEAL *Award Winners*

SMALL MARKETS

CORPORATE DEAL *of the YEAR • Small*

WINNER: Gil-Bar Solutions merger with HC Nye.

Deal Team Winner: Ascend Capital Group served as financial advisor to Gil-Bar.

CORPORATE DEAL *of the YEAR • Small*

WINNER: Hillenbrand, Inc acquires Peerless Food Equipment division of Illinois Tool Works Inc.

Deal Team Winner: KPMG Corporate Finance advisor to Peerless Food Equipment.

MIDDLE MARKETS

CORPORATE DEAL *of the YEAR • Lower Mid Markets*

WINNER: Kratos Defense & Security Solution acquires Engineering Division of Southern Research Institute.

Deal Team Winner: DC Advisory served as financial advisor to Southern Research Institute.

CORPORATE DEAL *of the YEAR • Middle-Markets*

WINNER: Del Monte Foods acquires Kitchen Basics assets from McCormick & Company.

Deal Team Winner: Del Monte Foods, and Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP, as legal advisor to Del Monte Foods.

ESOP DEAL *Award Winners*

ESOP DEAL *of the YEAR • Lower Middle Markets*

WINNER: Dental Designs in the sale of the company to an employee stock ownership plan.

Deal Team Winner: Prairie Capital Advisors

ESOP DEAL *of the YEAR • Middle Markets*

WINNER: York International Agency sale to IMA Financial Group.

Deal Team Winner: CSG Partners

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INDUSTRIES M&A DEAL Award Winners

CONSUMER *sub-sectors*

APPAREL & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Johnny Was portfolio company of Endeavor Capital sale to Oxford Industries.

Deal Team Winners: Buchalter PC, legal advisor to Johnny Was.

CONSUMER DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: L Catterton sale of TULA to P&G.

Deal Team Winners: L Catterton.

EDUCATION & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: APEX Anesthesia Review acquired by TrueLearn, portfolio company of LLR Partners.

Deal Team Winners: Navagant Advisors, as sell-side advisor.

CONSUMER SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Classic Emporium, DBA Rain Tunnel Car Spa sale to Champion Xpress Car Wash.

Deal Team Winners: Benchmark International as sell-side advisor.

FOOD & BEV DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: E. J. Gallo Winery acquires Denner Vineyards.

Deal Team Winners: Haynes and Boone LLP as legal advisor to Denner Vineyards.

HEALTHCARE & SERVICES *sub-sectors*

HEALTHCARE DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Delaware Center for Digestive Care partnership with US Digestive Health.

Deal Team Winners: Provident Healthcare Partners as a financial advisor.

HEALTH SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Toney Healthcare Consulting Sale to Centre Partners and Health Enterprise Partners.

Deal Team Winners: Hyde Park Capital Advisors as sell-side advisor.

TELE-HEALTH DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Thirty Madison merger with Nurx.

Deal Team Winners: Fenwick & West LLP as legal advisor to Nurx.

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INDUSTRIES M&A DEAL Award Winners

INDUSTRIALS & ENERGY *sub-sectors*

COMMERCIAL SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Alliance Building Services sale to Employee Stock Ownership Trust.

Deal Team Winner: Dvorak Law Group as legal counsel and CSG Partners as ESOP advisor.

AERO & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Integral Industries acquisition by Enjet Aero.

Deal Team Winner: Generational Group as sell-side advisor.

ENERGY & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Penta Operating d/b/a Jack's Convenience Stores sale of eight petroleum marketing and convenience retail stores and one Jack's Lube & Wash oil change and car wash location to an affiliate of Monfort Companies.

Deal Team Winner: Haynes and Boone, LLP served as legal counsel to Penta Operating.

INDUSTRIAL SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: ARC Abatement sale to West Fork IP, affiliate of Fernandez Holdings

Deal Team Winner: Benchmark International as sell side advisor.

FINANCIAL SERVICES *sub-sectors*

BUSINESS SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Charter Impact acquired by Mercator Search Group.

Deal Team Winner: Capstone Partners as sell side advisor.

FINTECH DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Gemspring Capital acquires GoldenSource.

Deal Team Winner: D.A. Davidson as sell side advisor.

FINANCIAL SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: B. Riley Financial acquires FocalPoint Securities.

Deal Team Winner: B. Riley Financial.

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INDUSTRIES M&A DEAL Award Winners

TMT *sub-sectors*

MEDIA & MARKETING DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Spiketrapp acquired by Reddit.

Deal Team Winner: Drake Star Partners financial advisor to Spiketrapp.

ENTERTAINMENT & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Dolphin Entertainment acquires Socialyte.

Deal Team Winner: FTI Capital Advisors, as sell side advisor.

GOV TECH & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Avenu Insights & Analytics acquisition of Interware Development Company.

Deal Team Winners: Avenu Insights & Analytics and Ascend Capital Group as sell-side advisor.

SOFTWARE & IT DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: Redwood Software, portfolio company of Turn/River acquires Tidal Software.

Deal Team Winner: KPMG Corporate Finance as sell-side advisor.

TELECOM & SERVICES DEAL *of the YEAR*

WINNER: AT&T and Anuvu sale of Wireless Maritime Services to CCP Capital Strategies.

Deal Team Winner: Drake Star Partners as an exclusive advisor to the sellers.

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