



Press Release

CLAIRFIELD INTERNATIONAL ADDS NEW PARTNER AND FOUR OFFICES IN THE USA

Geneva, February 11, 2014

Clairfield International has further expanded in the United States with the addition of the top midmarket investment bank **Greene Holcomb & Fisher LLC (GHF)**. GHF (www.ghf.net) offers services in M&A advisory, private placements, fairness opinions and special situations such as financial restructurings. The firm attributes its success to providing personalized attention from senior bankers, including day-to-day leadership and deal execution.

Founded in 1995 by former managing directors of Piper Jaffray, GHF has four offices in key regions in the US: Minneapolis, Minnesota; Atlanta, Georgia; Phoenix, Arizona; and Seattle, Washington, thus perfectly complementing Clairfield's office in New York City.

The firm has a staff of 30 with 15 managing directors, and its professionals have completed over 750 assignments representing over USD 45 billion in transaction value. While approximately 80% of GHF's transactions involve sales, including corporate divestitures, GHF's wide range of transactional experience allows the firm to be extremely effective in advising on buy-side transactions and management buyouts. Financial sponsors have also relied on GHF for representation in many M&A transactions.

Recent notable sales advised by GHF include:

- CorePower Yoga, LLC, the largest yoga studio operator in the US, to Catterton Partners.
- Apex Information Technologies, a producer of software for the healthcare industry, to WestView Capital Partners.
- Exlar Corporation, designer and manufacturer of electric actuators, to Curtiss-Wright Corporation.
- Ecolab Vehicle Care Division, provider of commercial vehicle care products, to Zep Inc.

This small sample of transactions show the wide range of expertise held by GHF dealmakers. While generalist in nature, the firm offers special expertise in seven sectors: business services, consumer, energy, food & agribusiness, healthcare, industrial products, and technology. These sectors match the existing industry focus of Clairfield International.

"The middle market is no longer a purely national business," says Kyle Crowe, partner at GHF. "Our clients are increasingly seeking to explore alternatives internationally. We are thrilled to be able to now offer them local access to senior bankers in all major overseas markets."

"As the US is the most important market in the western world, it is imperative to us to incorporate a partner whose size enables it to cover interesting industries and regions while remaining true to midmarket values and senior partner involvement in deals," says Albert Schander, director in charge of expansion for Clairfield International. "We were pleased to find in GHF a philosophy aligned with Clairfield's, and the same focus on sectors and senior attention."

ABOUT CLAIRFIELD INTERNATIONAL

Clairfield International (www.clairfield.com) is a leading international equity partnership providing corporate finance and M&A advisory services to clients ranging from family businesses to large multinational corporations and private equity funds. Clairfield International has over 300 professionals at 32 offices throughout Europe, the Americas and APAC.

In 2013, Clairfield International closed 85 M&A transactions worth over USD 3.6 billion.

For further information please contact: Press office, Clairfield International, tel: +34 93 487 0330, email: krizvi@clairfield.com, www.clairfield.com.