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THE CHICAGO CORPORATION

Transaction Announcement



Chicago – August 2014. The Chicago Corporation (“TCC”) announced that it advised Northern Illinois Steel Supply Co. (“NIS”) on its sale to Reliance Steel & Aluminum Co. (NYSE: RS) (“Reliance”). Founded in 1961, NIS is a value-added distributor and fabricator of a variety of steel and non-ferrous metal products, primarily structural steel components and parts.

NIS focuses on customers that require extensive fabrication services and/or critical delivery timelines with a large concentration in the energy and petrochemical sectors. The Company is located in Channahon, Illinois.

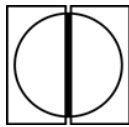
Reliance, headquartered in Los Angeles, California, is the largest metals service center company in North America reporting \$9.2 billion in revenues. Reliance provides value-added metals processing services and distributes through a network of more than 290 locations in 39 states and 11 countries outside of the United States.

TCC engaged in a robust marketing process which generated significant interest from both financial and strategic buyers. The process led to numerous management presentations resulting in several LOIs from which to choose. Reliance was ultimately selected based upon attractive terms as well as the excellent strategic and cultural fit. Reliance initially passed on the opportunity but re-engaged upon TCC’s direction to NIS’ unique business model, combining traditional metal distribution capabilities with extensive in-house fabrication services, often on an emergency basis. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

About The Chicago Corporation

The Chicago Corporation is an independent Chicago-based investment banking firm focused on providing middle-market companies with a range of financial and corporate advisory services including merger and acquisitions, institutional debt and equity capital raising, and financial restructuring. The Firm is committed to a “client-first” approach, which ensures that its professionals collaborate to find the best market-based solution for the client. For more information about The Chicago Corporation, its Investment Bankers, and Senior Advisors, please visit www.thechicagocorp.com.

Securities transactions conducted through TCC Securities, LLC, an affiliated company, registered Broker / Dealer and Member of FINRA / SIPC.



THE CHICAGO CORPORATION

Introduction

Chicago based investment bank with over 30 experienced bankers and senior advisors providing best-in-class investment banking advice and execution, and business advisory services to middle market public and private companies and financial institutions with revenue between \$20 and \$500 million.

Willingness to engage business owners on traditional investment banking business, as well as for broader financial and business advisory services, to provide advice on financial, strategic and operational issues in order to increase the value of their businesses.

Why The Chicago Corporation?

Culture

- Clients come first – trusted advisors to business owners
- Relationship driven – not transaction-driven

Experience

- Seasoned bankers with extensive industry, operational and transactional experience
- Elite team of senior advisors with diverse industry specializations and competencies

Collaboration

- Two or more bankers lead every engagement to provide best-in-class advice and execution
- Client benefit from firm-wide thinking

Relevance

- Entrepreneurial passion – all managing directors are owners
- Ability and willingness to engage in purely advisory / consultative roles

Excellence

- Goal to exceed client expectations by providing best-in-class, unbiased advice
- Success measured by client referrals and endorsements – Results

Services

Mergers & Acquisitions Advisory

- Sale of Company
- Corporate Divestiture
- Acquisition Advisory
- Special situations /Distressed sales
- Leveraged buyouts
- Going private transactions
- Fairness opinions
- Valuations

Private Capital Raising

- Senior debt
- Junior debt
- Convertible debt
- Preferred equity
- Common equity

Strategic & Financial Advisory Services

- Strategic alternatives analysis
- Capital structure analysis
- Debt capacity analysis
- Recapitalizations/Financial restructurings
- Preparation for a Transaction
- ESOP Advisory

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