

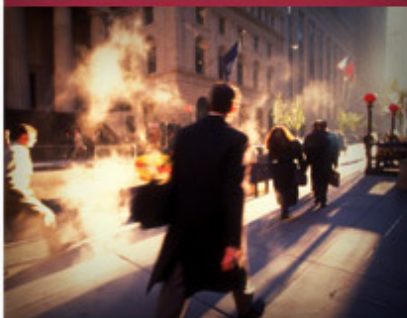


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Vetus Partners Named a Winner of Six Awards at The M&A Advisor's 8th Annual M&A Awards Gala

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CLEVELAND, January 18, 2010 – Vetus Partners LLC, a leading investment bank specializing in domestic and cross-border mergers, acquisitions and corporate divestitures of middle-market businesses, announced today that *The M&A Advisor* awarded Vetus Partners an unprecedented six M&A Awards at its 8th Annual M&A Awards Gala:

- Boutique Investment Banking Firm of the Year
- Cross Border Deal of the Year
- Lower Middle-Market Deal of the Year
- Media, Entertainment or Telecom Deal of the Year
- Dealmaker of the Year
- Industrial Distribution / Manufacturing Deal of the Year

Roger Aguinaldo, CEO of *The M&A Advisor* (www.maadvisor.com), stated: "The M&A Awards Gala honored deal-teams, deal-makers, and firms whose activities set the standard for the industry. This year, 170 finalists in 34 categories were chosen. An independent body of experts that span the M&A industry determined the ultimate recipients of the awards. The award winners represent the best of the M&A industry in 2009 and earned these honors by standing out in a group of very impressive finalists."

Jim Miller, Managing Director & Principal of Vetus Partners, stated: "All of us at Vetus are extremely proud of Jay Greyson, one of the founders of Vetus, who won the prestigious Dealmaker of the Year award. This was a special year to win this award, as 2009 will likely be known as the toughest year of our lifetimes from a deal-making perspective. Within the backdrop of this turbulent environment, Jay closed some excruciatingly complex deals. This award, in this year, given the complexity of the specific deals he got done, tells you all you need to know about Jay's prowess as a dealmaker. We are very pleased to see that the awards panel recognized what all of us at Vetus, and our clients, have known for a long time."

"We are honored and humbled to be recognized as the boutique Investment Bank of the Year," said Jay Greyson. "Vetus Partners would like to use this opportunity to say thank you to all of its clients over the years, who have entrusted us with the sale of their businesses. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season."

About Vetus Partners LLC

The investment banking firm of Vetus Partners helps private and public companies maximize the value of their businesses by providing a comprehensive array of financial advisory services relating to sell-side M&A, capital raising, corporate divestitures, financial restructuring, and management buyouts. Vetus' investment bankers have served as financial advisors in a broad range of transactions, both domestic and cross-border, with an aggregate dollar volume exceeding \$3 billion. Over the past decade, the Principals of Vetus have represented dozens of companies and private equity clients throughout the world. For more information please visit www.VetusPartners.com.