



Lewis-Goetz  
and Company, Inc.  
Has been recapitalized by



The undersigned served  
as financial advisor to  
Lewis-Goetz in this transaction



## Vetus Partners

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## Vetus Partners Advises on the Recapitalization of Lewis-Goetz and Company, Inc.

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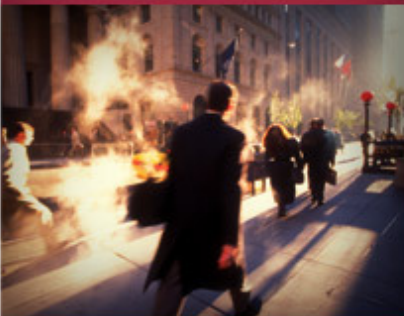
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**CLEVELAND, June 7, 2007** – The investment bank of **Vetus Partners** announced today the successful recapitalization of its client, Lewis-Goetz and Company, Inc. (“Lewis-Goetz”). The recapitalization was led by Audax Group, a private equity fund managed by Boston-based Audax Group. Vetus Partners served as exclusive financial advisor to Lewis-Goetz & Company, Inc. Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC served as counsel to Lewis-Goetz, and Ropes & Gray LLP served as counsel for Audax.

Headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Lewis-Goetz is a leading independent value-added distributor of industrial rubber products, including industrial, hydraulic, and metal hose; conveyor belts; gaskets and seals; and related accessories. Lewis-Goetz operates from 48 locations throughout the United States and Canada.

Dave Goetz, Lewis-Goetz’s Chairman and CEO stated, “Lewis-Goetz engaged Vetus as its exclusive financial advisor due to Vetus’ extensive and unequalled experience in the wholesale distribution industry and knowledge of the private equity community. Vetus identified what we believe will be the optimal financial partner in assisting us in executing on our long-term plan of continuing to consolidate this fragmented industry. Our management team and employees are looking forward to building on our strong track record of profitable growth.”

Jim Miller, a Managing Director with Vetus Partners, commented, “It was a pleasure to represent Lewis-Goetz’s shareholders and management in the recapitalization process. Lewis-Goetz received significant interest from the market due largely to its premier market position, unique value-add business model, and outstanding management team. We were also pleased to complete a transaction with Audax Group, whose team impressed our client with their grasp



of the Company's position, growth opportunities, as well as their thoughtful approach to the acquisition process." Please contact Jim Miller at Vetus Partners ([jmiller@vetuspartners.com](mailto:jmiller@vetuspartners.com)) for additional information.

### **About Vetus Partners**

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, debt and equity placements, corporate divestitures, 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 \$1.5 billion. Over the past decade, the Principals of Vetus have represented more than two dozen distribution companies and private equity clients seeking to invest in distribution companies. For more information, visit Vetus Partners' website at [www.VetusPartners.com](http://www.VetusPartners.com).