



For immediate release

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CORE GROWTH CAPITAL LEADS SECONDARY MBO OF LONDON GRAPHIC CENTRE

Core Growth Capital, the specialist private equity partnership and manager of Core VCTs I, II and III, has led the secondary MBO of London Graphic Centre, investing £3 million alongside debt facilities totalling £9 million provided by Singer & Friedlander.

With sales of £15.4 million, LGC services the requirements of London's leading professional and design companies, supplying corporate office supplies, art & graphic materials, computer consumables and colour printing systems. Formed in 1973, the company also has four retail outlets and a state-of-the-art internet site, and is one of the largest independents supplying the London market.

LGC is headed by Gordon Christiansen who originally joined the business in 2004. He is supported by Peter Allen (Finance Director) who has been with the business for 18 years and 4 senior members of the management. David Cox, formerly Chief Executive of Oyez Straker, is Chairman of the new Company and Stephen Edwards of Core Growth Capital joins as non-executive Director.

Commenting on the MBO, Gordon Christiansen said "Our strategy is to increase sales and profits through further organic growth and acquisition, building on our strong reputation for service and with an increasing focus on business office supplies." David Cox added, "LGC boasts a fantastic pedigree and with its excellent reputation is well poised to become a significant player in the office supplies market".

Stephen Edwards added “The office stationary market is mature and competitive, and consolidation within the industry is likely to continue. As a larger independent business offering a high level of service within the London market, LGC is well positioned to grow its office supplies business by acquisition. We invested £3 million alongside significant debt facilities which give the management team the firepower they need to complete acquisitions.”

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Notes for editors

London Graphic Centre

London Graphic Centre operates from its main headquarters in west London servicing the requirements of London’s leading professional and design companies supplying corporate office supplies, art & graphic materials, computer consumables and colour printing systems. Formed in 1973, the company also has four retail outlets, 3 based in London and 1 in Yorkshire.

Core Growth Capital LLP

Core Growth Capital invests in small to mid-size private companies, typically valued at £5 to £25 million. Core has three principal partners; **Stephen Edwards**, who has an investment track record spanning over 12 years in the private equity industry; **Walid**

Fakhry, a successful entrepreneur and private equity investor; and **Caparo plc**, a leading privately held, UK-based industrial group.

Core Growth Capital is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and is a full member of the BVCA.

Singer & Friedlander

Singer & Friedlander has an experienced Structured Finance team providing full service debt funding solutions to the UK mid-market. The Bank has a proven track record in completing a wide range of transactions in the MBO market made possible by its short lines of communication, a commercial outlook and high service levels. As a non-volume player with the time to understand business dynamics and the ability to tailor structures to the specifics of the transaction, S&F are better able to meet and exceed clients' expectations.

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