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CIRCLE PEAK CAPITAL EXPANDS EXECUTIVE TEAM

Appointment of Senior Associate expands team

NEW YORK, NY – May 23, 2006 – Private equity firm Circle Peak Capital today announced the appointment of James H. Clippard as a Senior Associate.

Mr. Clippard was formerly a Vice President of Equity Derivatives at Bear, Wagner Specialists, a subsidiary of Bear Stearns Companies, and an analyst at Spear, Leeds, and Kellogg (SLK), a subsidiary of Goldman Sachs. While at Bear, Wagner and SLK, his focus was on applied quantitative modeling and equity analysis. He managed Bear Wagner's largest derivatives trading account and team.

He joined Circle Peak in June 2005 as an Associate and has worked on transactions including the firm's leveraged recapitalization of Shari's Restaurants in December 2005, and the firm's formation and leveraged buyout of Luxury Optical Holdings in May 2006. He continues to work on transactions in both the financial services and consumer products industries.

Clippard earned an MBA in May 2006 from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Finance. He also received a BA degree in Economics from Cornell University, where he was on the Dean's List. His education included attending the London School of Economics, where he studied Economics. Clippard lives and works in New York City.

Circle Peak's Managing Partner R. Adam Smith said, "Jim has made and will continue to make a terrific addition to our team. His experience in quantitative finance, equity research, and relationship-based franchises suits our firm extremely well."



Circle Peak Capital LLC

Circle Peak Capital LLC (Circle Peak) is a private equity investment firm based in New York, NY and founded in 2002 that invests in established small- and mid-cap private companies in the consumer sectors. Circle Peak's principals and advisors are experienced in investing in, managing, operating and advising companies with between \$10 million and \$500 million in sales. Circle Peak's existing consumer investment portfolio also includes Luxury Optical Holdings, Shari's Restaurants and Hill & Valley LLC, among several others. The company is dedicated to partnering with proven management, and supplementing management teams where necessary, building profitable and sustainable businesses, and realizing significant returns on capital for its principals, management teams and investors. For more information, go to www.circlepeakcapital.com or call 646-230-8812.