

# News Announcement

## **GB Merchant Partners Provides \$12 Million in Acquisition Financing to Buffalo Wild Wings Franchisee**

**BOSTON, MA – October 11, 2011** – The Debt Investment Group of GB Merchant Partners, the investment management affiliate of Gordon Brothers Group, announced today the completion of \$12 million in Second Lien and Mezzanine financing to Consolidated Wings Investment, LLC, an entity formed by Dan Holland, the former President of Papa John's Pizza, and Bill Ogden, the founder and Managing Director of Granite Capital Partners, LLC., to acquire 16 Buffalo Wild Wings restaurants in Central Indiana. Proceeds were used to fund the acquisition.

"The combination of this new management team, a strong brand concept and financing from GB Merchant Partners should result in continued growth for this franchisee group," stated Mr. Ogden. "We are extremely excited to be part of the Buffalo Wild Wings system."

"Buffalo Wild Wings is a very strong concept with a loyal customer base. We are thrilled to provide Consolidated Wings with the financing they need to acquire and grow the franchises," added Wendy Landon, Managing Director at GB Merchant Partners. "We are confident the management team will bring a new energy to the locations and look forward to the continued success of the business."

### **About Buffalo Wild Wings, Inc.**

Buffalo Wild Wings, Inc., founded in 1982 and headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is a growing owner, operator and franchisor of Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar® restaurants featuring a variety of boldly-flavored, made-to-order menu items including its namesake Buffalo, New York-style chicken wings. The Buffalo Wild Wings' menu specializes in eighteen mouth-watering signature sauces and seasonings with flavor sensations ranging from Sweet BBQ™ to Blazin'®. Guests enjoy a welcoming neighborhood atmosphere that includes an extensive multi-media system for watching their favorite sporting events. Buffalo Wild Wings is the recipient of hundreds of "Best Wings" and "Best Sports Bar" awards from across the country. There are currently over 780 Buffalo Wild Wings locations across 45 states in the United States, as well as in Canada.

**About Granite Capital Partners, LLC**

Granite Capital Partners is a private investment firm that provides flexible and patient capital to talented entrepreneurs and managers enabling them to grow their business, manage during periods of transition, or provide liquidity events. Our approach allows us to customize a unique solution that meets the individual needs of each business. Our team draws on both experienced finance professionals as well as operating professionals and former CEOs.

**About GB Merchant Partners, Debt Investment Group**

The Debt Investment Group of GB Merchant Partners ([www.gbmerchantpartners.com](http://www.gbmerchantpartners.com)), the investment management affiliate of Gordon Brothers Group, invests in structured and secondary debt. Structured debt investments in the form of senior, unitranche, second lien or mezzanine loans ranging from \$5 to \$50 million are made to middle-market companies in need of capital to effect strategic change. Target industries include aerospace, automotive, commodities, consumer products, forest products, gaming, industrial equipment, manufacturing, real estate, restaurants, retail, and wholesale/distribution.

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