

News Announcement

GB Merchant Partners Provides \$10 Million in Financing to Support PetroLiance Acquisition

BOSTON, MA – October 3, 2011 – The Debt Investment Group of GB Merchant Partners, the investment management affiliate of Gordon Brothers Group, announced today the completion of a \$10 million Term Loan in conjunction with financing by MSouth Equity Partners to support their acquisition of PetroLiance®, LLC. The financing provided by GB Merchant Partners complimented the investment made by MSouth Equity Partners in PetroLiance which was completed earlier this month.

PetroLiance was formed in 2006 through the merger of four of the nation's largest ExxonMobil distributors, Boncosky Oil, Commercial Ullman Lubricants Company, Young Oil Company and Lubricant Technologies. PetroLiance is now one of the leading lubricant and fuel distributors in the United States.

"After forming this alliance in 2006, PetroLiance has become a significant player within the lubricant distribution industry," stated Bart McLean, Partner, MSouth Equity Partners. "The support of GB Merchant Partners helps us to complete this strategic acquisition and ensure PetroLiance's continued success."

"This acquisition is a great, strategic fit for all of the entities involved," added Gary Prager, Managing Director for GB Merchant Partners. "PetroLiance's potential for growth is significant now that they have the backing of a major equity sponsor combined with access to the additional capital provided by GB Merchant Partners".

About MSouth Equity Partners

MSouth is a private equity investment firm providing equity capital and expertise to support management teams in acquisitions and recapitalizations of lower middle market companies typically valued \$25-\$125 million. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, MSouth invests primarily in the South with a consistent focus on management buyouts of business services, distribution and specialty manufacturing companies. MSouth is a successor to Cravey, Green & Wahlen, Inc. which was founded in 1984.

About PetroLiance®, LLC

PetroLiance®, LLC is a leader among fuel and oil distributors. PetroLiance distributes automotive lubricants and diesel engine oil, including Mobil lubricants which are recognized as industry-leading automotive, commercial heavy duty and industrial lubricants in many lines of business the world over. Along with quality Mobil lubricants and other fuel products and diesel fuels, PetroLiance provides an array of support and follow-up services designed to help improve a company's overall performance and operational efficiency.

About GB Merchant Partners

The Debt Investment Group of GB Merchant Partners (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.*