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# CIBC CLEARY GULL ADVISES GT GOLF HOLDINGS, INC. ON ITS SALE TO KINZIE CAPITAL PARTNERS LP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MANAGEMENT

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 2023 –** CIBC Cleary Gull is pleased to announce that its client GT Golf Holdings, Inc. ("GT" or the "Company"), a portfolio company of Hadley Capital ("Hadley") has been acquired by Kinzie Capital Partners LP ("Kinzie") in partnership with management. CIBC Cleary Gull acted as exclusive financial advisor to GT Golf Holdings, Inc. in this transaction.

GT Golf was founded in 1995 and offers a wide breadth of consumable products, including golf grips, accessories and tees, sourcing more than 3,000 SKUs from over 150 vendors in addition to 300 company-owned proprietary products.

Brian Van De Veere, President of GT Golf stated, "We are thrilled to partner with Kinzie as we move into our next phase of growth and innovation. Kinzie's collaborative relationship with technology specialists along with their operational expertise presents us with an opportunity to expand our reach into new markets and demographics."

"Brian, Gary and Patrick's commitment to expanding the business, coupled with the rapid growth of the fragmented golf supply market, provides a strong opportunity for Kinzie to enter this attractive market," said Suzanne Yoon, Founder and Managing Partner of Kinzie Capital Partners. "We are proud to work with GT Golf's management team as they expand the business nationally and increase its position as a leading wholesale supplier in this space."

Greg Gorlinski, Managing Director, at CIBC Cleary Gull said, "We are very proud to have helped GT Golf and its management team find a partner for the next chapter of the company's growth. GT Golf's management team has built a fantastic platform, and we are excited for what they will achieve in partnership with Kinzie."

# **About GT Golf Holdings, Inc.**

GT Golf (<a href="www.ggolf.com">www.ggolf.com</a>) is the largest and fastest growing distributor of consumable golf products including grips, tees, and accessories to golf courses, specialty retailers, and direct to consumers. GT Golf is a valued partner to its customers because it offers the widest breadth of products in the industry, shortest lead times, competitive pricing, and excellent customer service. The company is headquartered in Vista, California and maintains additional locations in South Carolina and Texas.

## **About Kinzie Capital Partners LP**

Kinzie Capital Partners (<u>www.kinziecp.com</u>) invests in lower middle-market companies in the manufactured products, business services and consumer industries. In alliance with Clarity Partners, LLC, specialists in management and technology consulting, Kinzie has assembled a

team of technology, operations and industry experts that work closely with its portfolio companies to execute strategic vision. Whether companies are navigating a generational shift, experiencing a period of high growth or managing a complex business cycle, Kinzie seeks to create sustainable outcomes by leveraging technology and strong operational focus.

#### **About Hadley Capital**

For more than two decades, Hadley (https://www.hadleycapital.com) has assisted small company owners in need of management succession, ownership transition and growth support. Hadley has acquired more than 25 small companies that represent an exclusive group of market leaders that "punch above their weight."

## **About CIBC Cleary Gull**

CIBC Cleary Gull (https://cibcclearygull.com) is a middle-market investment banking firm that advises private companies, private equity funds, and corporations on mergers & acquisitions, private debt and equity capital raises, and other transactions. CIBC Cleary Gull has extensive experience in the industrial, software & technology, healthcare, business & industrial services, and consumer sectors.

CIBC is a 150-year-old financial institution that provides US clients with tailored commercial banking, wealth management, personal and small business financial solutions, as well as crossborder banking services to clients with North American operations.

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