



**CIBC Middle Market Investment Banking**

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**CIBC ADVISES STOCK'D SUPPLY, A PORTFOLIO COMPANY OF NEBRASKA HEAVY INDUSTRIES, AND MIDWEST GROWTH PARTNERS, ON ITS SALE TO BLACKHAWK INDUSTRIAL, A PORTFOLIO COMPANY OF TRUARC PARTNERS**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 31, 2023** – CIBC is pleased to announce that its client, Stock'd Supply ("Stock'd Supply" or the "Company"), has been acquired by Blackhawk Industrial ("Blackhawk"). CIBC acted as exclusive financial advisor to Stock'd Supply in this transaction.

Stock'd Supply is a leading industrial distribution platform that specializes in fasteners, industrial supplies, custom-designed critical components, and value-added services.

President and CEO of BlackHawk Industrial, John Mark said, "The BlackHawk acquisition strategy continues to be fueled by our number one priority of saving our customers money and being a catalyst for their success. The addition of the Stock'd team of experts will help power BlackHawk's promising organic and inorganic revenue growth, broaden our customer base, and offer new and comprehensive services unlike anything we have done in the past."

"BlackHawk and Stock'd are a perfect combination, and I can't wait to leverage our strengths to provide increased product offerings and deliver world-class customer service," said Keith Shope, CEO of Stock'd Supply. "The 101 valued employees at Stock'd will become part of BlackHawk's industry-leading operating system and have the opportunity to do remarkable things in the future because of this partnership."

Ryan Olsta, Managing Director of CIBC US Middle Market Investment Banking stated, "We were excited to work with owners and management team of Stock'd Supply. It is truly a great Company with multiple opportunities for growth. The combination with Blackhawk should work to accelerate that growth and improve the overall offering to its customers."

**About Stock'd Supply**

Founded in 1979, headquartered in Chattanooga, TN, and operating out of nine locations, Stock'd Supply ([www.stockdsupply.com](http://www.stockdsupply.com)) is a well-respected supplier of fasteners, technical threads, and other custom-designed industrial products – distinguishing itself as a value-added technical service provider. Stock'd Supply provides products with value-added services including certification, secondary processing, testing, vendor managed inventory ("VMI"), kitting, and assembly. Stock'd Supply has established itself as the VMI industrial supplier of choice for an impressive set of diversified industries and customers.

### **About Grit, LLC**

Grit, LLC was a special purpose private equity investment vehicle managed by Dave Hadani and partners, founded to acquire, manage and grow industrial businesses in the heartland with a long-term investment horizon, providing leadership, resources and expertise in servant-led organizations and a mission of creating long-term strategic value to all stakeholders, including team members, customers, community and investors.

### **About Midwest Growth Partners**

Midwest Growth Partners ([www.mgpfund.com](http://www.mgpfund.com)), located in West Des Moines, IA, is a private equity fund manager, responsible for more than \$325 million of private capital across multiple funds. MGP invests in established companies within the food and agriculture, manufacturing, and distribution industries. Current MGP investments have revenues totaling over \$1 billion annually, employing over 3,000 people. MGP seeks to make succession planning liquidity or growth capital investments in established companies in underserved rural markets which are managed by great people who share a cultural fit with our team.

### **About Blackhawk Industrial**

BlackHawk Industrial ([www.bhid.com](http://www.bhid.com)) is a market-leading industrial distributor, focused on metalworking such as carbide cutting tools, abrasives, and saw blades. They also provide a full line of MRO, industrial fasteners, and packaging products. BlackHawk has the expertise and capability to provide custom industrial vending solutions and creative design, build, and supply chain solutions. The highly technical sales staff strives to deliver world-class service and cost savings across the customer's production floor.

### **About Truarc Partners**

Located in New York, NY, TruArc Partners ([www.truarcpartners.com](http://www.truarcpartners.com)) facilitates transformational growth for high-potential middle market companies in the Specialty Manufacturing and Business Services sectors, by implementing focused organic and acquisition-led growth strategies capitalizing on specific market trends. Working closely with each portfolio company, Truarc helps identify, develop, and execute strategies to enhance its market position and transform how a company generates earnings to increase value. While TruArc was established in 2021, its experienced team has executed \$3.0 billion in private equity investments together since 2005.

### **About CIBC US Middle Market Investment Banking**

The CIBC US Middle Market Investment Banking team advises private companies, private equity funds, and corporations on mergers & acquisitions, private debt and equity capital raises, and other transactions. The team has extensive experience in the industrial, consumer, business & industrial services, software & technology, and healthcare sectors.

### **About CIBC**

CIBC ([www.cibc.com](http://www.cibc.com)) is a leading North American financial institution with 13 million personal banking, business, public sector and institutional clients using a platform that offers personal and small business banking, commercial banking, wealth management, and access to the capital markets. CIBC offers a full range of advice, solutions and services through its leading digital

banking network, and has locations across Canada, the United States and around the world. CIBC capital markets provides integrated global markets products and services, investment banking advisory and execution, corporate banking and top-ranked research to corporate, government and institutional clients around the world.

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