



**CHURCHILL CAPITAL PROVIDES FINANCING FOR GRYPHON INVESTORS AND MICHAEL BAILEY'S ACQUISITION OF THREE LEADING FOODSERVICE MANAGEMENT COMPANIES**

**New York, NY – May 8, 2008** – Churchill Capital Mezzanine Finance (Churchill Capital), a leading originator and underwriter of mezzanine loans, has provided a \$5.0 million subordinated debt financing to support Gryphon Investors, in partnership with executive Michael Bailey, in the purchase of food service management firms Aladdin Food Management Services, AmeriServe Food Management Services and Fitz, Vogt & Associates, through a newly formed company, TrustHouse Services Group, Ltd. This is Churchill Capital's third investment with Gryphon.

Churchill Capital is a subsidiary of Churchill Financial Group, a leading commercial finance and asset management company.

Gryphon Investors is a private equity firm, based in San Francisco, CA, focused on leveraged acquisitions of, and growth investments in, middle market companies in partnership with experienced management. Michael Bailey is former CEO of Compass Group PLC, a global foodservice provider with over \$20 billion in annual revenue.

“Churchill has worked with us on two very successful investments in the past. Their flexibility, middle market expertise and client-focused approach has again helped us to further extend Gryphon’s strong franchise in the facility services sector,” said Keith Stimson, a Principal with Gryphon.

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Ann Ferreira, a Managing Director with Churchill Capital added, “Our strong working relationship and history with Gryphon enabled us to navigate a significant market transition through the transaction process to facilitate closing the deal. We look forward to partnering with Gryphon again.”

### **About Gryphon Investors**

Based in San Francisco, Gryphon Investors focuses on leveraged acquisitions of, and growth invests in, middle market companies in partnership with experienced management. Having managed more than \$1 billion of discretionary equity capital, Gryphon has an extensive track record of investing \$25 to \$75 million of its own capital in companies with sales ranging from \$25 to \$250 million. Gryphon prioritizes investment opportunities where it can form proactive partnerships with owners and executives to build leading companies, utilizing Gryphon’s capital, professional resources and significant financial and operational expertise. Visit [www.gryphoninvestors.com](http://www.gryphoninvestors.com) for more information.

### **About Aladdin Food Management Services**

Aladdin Food Management Services, LLC of Wheeling, WV, is a contract foodservice provider that focuses primarily on the higher education, private school, nursing home and other non-acute health care markets. Aladdin also serves customers in the government and industrial markets. Aladdin provides its food services to clients located across the New England, Mid-Atlantic and Midwestern regions. Visit [www.aladdinfood.com](http://www.aladdinfood.com) for more information.

### **About AmeriServe Food Management Services**

Founded in 1994 and headquartered in Columbia, MO, AmeriServe provides contract food service management to colleges and secondary schools throughout a seven-state area comprised of Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Illinois and Iowa. AmeriServe operates as the exclusive provider of food and beverage at all facilities it services and is responsible for hiring, training, and supervising food service personnel.

### **About Fitz, Vogt & Associates**

Headquartered in Walpole, NH, Fitz, Vogt & Associates is a leading regional provider of customized food management services in the Northeast. Founded in 1977, the firm services accounts located primarily in the New England states of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, with a smaller presence in the Atlantic coast states through Pennsylvania and Maryland. [Visit www. Fitzvogt.com](http://www.Fitzvogt.com) for more information.

### **About Churchill Financial Group**

Churchill Financial Group, headquartered in New York, is a leading commercial finance and asset management company. Churchill has three complementary businesses: Churchill Financial, which focuses on providing senior lending to middle market companies; Churchill Capital, which provides subordinated debt financing to middle market companies; and Churchill Pacific, which manages portfolios of CDOs and other fixed income funds. Churchill Financial and Churchill Capital focus on lending to companies backed by leading private equity firms and other investors. Churchill has approximately \$2 billion of committed capital to support its financing activities and over \$3.5 billion in assets under management. Churchill has offices in New York, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Chicago and Boston. For more information please visit our Web site at [www.churchillnet.com](http://www.churchillnet.com).

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