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## PRESS RELEASE

### ***RKJ Partners, LLC Announces Strategic Partnership with Red Clay Capital Holdings, LLC***

**Atlanta, GA, November 30, 2008:** RKJ Partners, LLC (“RKJ”), a boutique investment bank providing advisory services for lower middle market companies, today announced the formation of a strategic partnership with Red Clay Capital Holdings, LLC (“Red Clay”). The partnership will enable RKJ to provide its clients with direct access to an equity capital partner on select transactions. Red Clay will benefit from the partnership by having access to RKJ’s team of investment bankers in identifying viable investment opportunities.

Both RKJ’s and Red Clay’s management teams are excited about the partnership and believe the relationship will yield long-term, tangible benefits for both firms.

**About RKJ Partners, LLC – [www.rkjpartners.com](http://www.rkjpartners.com):**

Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, RKJ Partners, LLC offers a unique suite of investment banking advisory services specializing in corporate transactions between \$2MM to \$75MM. The firm follows a client-centric business model that eliminates conflicts of interest, while delivering seasoned expertise and higher success rates when compared to lower middle-market investment banking firms. Our clients include buyers of private and publicly owned businesses, strategic buyers, financial partners and private investment groups who seek uncompromising advice regarding their investment banking activities.

Whether our client’s objective is to raise capital, sell all or part of their business, divest a division, acquire or merge, our unique service offerings enable us to evaluate all of the options in order to determine the most effective solution that meets our clients’ needs.

#### **Mergers & Acquisitions**

RKJ’s investment bankers have provided buy-side and sell-side experience for large corporate entities. Utilizing our extensive transaction experience, we provide clients with senior-level attention throughout all phases of the transaction process including: identifying candidates; conducting valuation analysis; sourcing financing; structuring and negotiating terms on M&A transactions; performing due diligence; and processing closing. Our deal experience includes asset and stock purchases, licensing agreements and earn-outs.

#### **Sales & Divestitures**

RKJ prides itself on creating strategies that mirror our clients’ objectives. Understanding the objectives is paramount to developing an exit strategy. By drilling down on the objectives, we are then able to determine what the appropriate strategy should be: a sale to a strategic or financial acquirer; a partial or outright exit; a divisional divestiture; or an employee stock ownership plan or management buyout.

#### **Capital Raising**

RKJ assists clients in raising capital required to fund continued growth and acquisitions, and provide for additional liquidity. Whether the capital source is senior debt, subordinated debt, a private equity investment, or venture capital, RKJ has extensive relationships within the arenas of corporate finance, private equity, venture capital and angel investors that enable us to deploy the optimal capital solution.

#### **Strategic Advisory Services**

RKJ provides industry and capital markets advisory services to owners, shareholders and their boards in developing strategies that maximize their companies’ value, and facilitates a better understanding of all available options. In developing these strategies, we engage in a deep and thorough evaluation and analysis that results in the identification of value deflators and growth drivers.

**About Red Clay Capital Holdings, LLC – [www.redclaycapital.com](http://www.redclaycapital.com):**

Red Clay Capital Holdings, LLC is a private investment firm focused on investing in and supporting the long-term development of growth-stage companies – particularly companies located in the Southeastern United States... where the soil is composed of Red Clay.

Based in Atlanta, GA, Red Clay takes a hands-on approach to portfolio investments. Our team believes that great companies are built and that value can most efficiently be created by developing a strategy and working with management to execute against it.

Red Clay has a clear investment focus. We prefer to make control investments in established manufacturing, consumer products, value-added distribution and business services companies with a marketing-driven opportunity to achieve above average business growth and with operating cash flows in excess of \$1.5 million annually.