



THE GORES GROUP

NEWS RELEASE

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THE GORES GROUP ANNOUNCED AS WINNER AT THE 10th ANNUAL M&A AWARDS AT NEW YORK GALA

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 2011 -- [The M&A Advisor](#) announced the winners of the 10th Annual M&A Advisor Awards to a lively, sold-out crowd at the 10th Annual M&A Awards Gala at the New York Athletic Club on Tuesday, December 13. The Gores Group's acquisition of the Cosmopolis, WA dissolving wood pulp mill from Weyerhaeuser Company was named the winner of the Middle-Market Deal of the Year award (\$50-100 million). The event was hosted by Bloomberg Television's Julie Hyman, and featured a keynote address by former Massachusetts Governor and leading M&A counsel, William F. Weld.

"The Gores Group represents the best of the M&A industry in 2011 and earned these honors by standing out in a group of very impressive finalists," said Roger Aguinaldo, CEO and Founder of The M&A Advisor. The Gores Group was chosen from 389 nominations and over 500 participating companies to receive their award. An independent body of expert judges that span the M&A industry determined the ultimate recipients of the awards. Winners were revealed "Academy-Award style" at the gala.

"We are honored to accept this prestigious award from The M&A Advisor. Our team worked hard on this challenging acquisition and we are very pleased with the progress of the Cosmo Specialty Fibers business," said Jordan Katz, Managing Director of The Gores Group. "The Gores Group is known for investing in growing businesses which can benefit from our extensive operating experience and flexible capital base. Cosmo Specialty Fibers is a great example of how our unique acquisition and operations philosophy and experience can come together for a successful acquisition."

The gala is the premier celebration of the year for the industry's leading dealmakers. In addition to the 2011 transaction, firm and dealmaker award honorees, leading M&A attorney H. Rodgin Cohen, Senior Chairman of Sullivan & Cromwell, was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award. In what has become a tradition at the annual black-tie gala, the M&A Advisor inducted 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, Harvey Miller and Bruce Rauner, of Weil Gotshal and GTCR, respectively, in addition to H. Rodgin Cohen, into the M&A Advisor Hall of Fame. 2011 International M&A Leadership Award Recipients Howard Morgan and Andrew Rice, of The Jordan Company and Castle Harlan, respectively, were also inducted into the M&A Advisor Hall of Fame.

A video further highlighting the Cosmo Specialty Fibers transaction can be viewed at:

<http://www.gores.com/cosmo.html>.

ABOUT THE M&A ADVISOR

Since 1998, The M&A Advisor has been presenting, recognizing the achievement of and facilitating connections between the world's leading mergers and acquisitions, financing and turnaround professionals with a comprehensive range of services including M&A SUMMITS; M&A AWARDS; M&A CONNECTS™; M&A ALERTS™, M&A LINKS™ and M&A MARKET INTEL™. To learn more visit: www.maadvisor.com.

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ABOUT THE GORES GROUP

The Gores Group, LLC is a private equity firm focused on acquiring controlling interests in mature and growing businesses which can benefit from the firm's operating experience and flexible capital base. The firm combines the operational expertise and detailed due diligence capabilities of a strategic buyer with the seasoned M&A team of a traditional financial buyer. The Gores Group, which was founded in 1987 by Alec E. Gores, has become a leading investor having demonstrated over time a reliable track record of creating substantial value in its portfolio companies alongside management. Headquartered in Los Angeles, the Gores Group maintains offices in Boulder, CO, and London. For more information, please visit www.gores.com.

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