

***Matrix Capital Markets Group, Inc. Announces Management Buyout,
Second Quarter Transactions***

RICHMOND, Va., (August 15, 2005) – Matrix Capital Markets Group announced today the acquisition by management of Matrix Capital Markets Group, Inc. and Matrix Private Equities, Inc. from AXA Financial, Inc., the company's former parent.

The seventeen-year-old company, which is a leading middle market investment bank that specializes in merger and acquisition advisory services for privately held companies, was acquired by the MONY Group, Inc. in 2001, which was subsequently purchased by AXA Financial, Inc. last year.

“By taking the company private, we are embracing the entrepreneurial spirit that has contributed to Matrix's success,” said Jeffrey G. Moore, President of Matrix. “We will continue to follow our passion for representing those shareholders who manage their businesses on a day-to-day basis. Although we have always specialized in serving privately held companies, we are returning to our roots, proving that we truly understand the needs of private business.”

In addition to Moore, the three other primary shareholders are William H. Weirich, Michael C. Morrison and Thomas E. Kelso, with equity participation from the senior professionals at the firm.

Besides their own successful management buyout, Matrix also announced the completion of several other transactions in the second quarter of 2005.

- In April, Matrix completed the recapitalization one of the largest contractor of underground pools, patios and spas in the Southwest. Funding was provided by Lincolnshire Management, Inc. and under the recapitalization, the owners will continue to lead the company.
- In May, the merger of DIMON Incorporated and Standard Commercial Corporation was completed. Matrix served as the exclusive financial advisor to North Carolina based Standard Commercial Corporation. The merger, originally announced November 8, 2004, created a leading global independent leaf tobacco merchant with broad geographic processing capabilities, a diversified product offering and an established customer base, including all of the world's major consumer tobacco products companies.
- Matrix provided acquisition advisory services and raised capital for Michigan-based RPF Oil Company in the acquisition of 44 BP retail and wholesale fuel assets in the greater Detroit market. RPF has been distributing and marketing motor fuels in the greater Detroit market since 1933 and has been a distributor for BP and BP Amoco since 1985. RPF's successful acquisition makes the company one of the largest BP branded jobbers in Michigan, with nearly 100 million gallons of motor fuels supplied annually.

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Other recent transactions include:

- In the last quarter of 2004, Matrix was retained by U.S. Bankruptcy Court Trustee, Gary V. Skiba, to manage the asset sale of RAN Oil Company, LLC's 29 petroleum marketing stores in western Pennsylvania. The closing of this transaction is currently in process with the final completion expected to take place this month.
- Matrix served as the exclusive financial advisor in the successful sale of Donsons Distributing, Inc. of Denver to Vistar Corporation, one of America's leading distributors of food products and related supplies. Donsons is a leading independent broadline foodservice distributor serving restaurants, healthcare facilities, schools and institutions. Donsons will operate as a wholly owned subsidiary of Vistar.

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About Matrix Capital Markets Group, Inc.

Matrix Capital Markets Group is a leading middle market investment bank headquartered in Richmond, Virginia. Since our founding in 1988, Matrix has served privately held companies and has specialized in merger & acquisition and financial advisory services including exclusive sales and divestitures, management buyouts, and debt & equity placements.