

LNK PROMOTES JEFF PERLMAN TO PARTNER

WHITE PLAINS, NY, September 4, 2008 – LNK Partners, a private equity firm focused on the consumer/retail sector, is pleased to announce the promotion of Jeff Perlman to Partner.

Jeff has a combination of nine years of private equity and three years of operating experience. Jeff played a leading role in the firm's recent recapitalization of the fast-casual restaurant chain Au Bon Pain. LNK invested more than \$100 million of equity in partnership with management to support Au Bon Pain's continued expansion in the United States and internationally. In addition, Jeff was instrumental in LNK's earlier minority investment in the recapitalization of Ariat, the world's premier and fastest-growing performance equestrian brand.

Prior to LNK, Jeff was Principal at Apax Partners where he helped build the firm's U.S. consumer and retail group, participating in such successful investments as Phillips-Van Heusen/Calvin Klein, Spyder Active Sports, and Greenbacks.

Before joining Apax, Jeff was an associate at GE Equity, the private equity division of General Electric. Jeff's operating experience includes working as Manager of Corporate Finance for ITT Corporation, the parent company of Sheraton Hotels, Caesars Palace Casinos and Madison Square Garden. Jeff began his career as an analyst in the Mergers & Acquisitions group of Smith Barney.

Jeff currently serves on the Board of Directors of Au Bon Pain, and previously was a member of the Board of Directors of Performance Bicycle. Jeff received an AB from Harvard College and an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

For additional information on LNK Partners and our investment professionals please visit our website at www.LNKpartners.com.

About LNK Partners

LNK Partners is a private equity firm focused on backing strong management teams who are building outstanding consumer and retail businesses. The firm is led by David Landau, the former head of the U.S. consumer/retail group of private equity firm Apax Partners; Henry Nasella, the former President of Staples and CEO of Star Markets; and Bruce Klatsky, the former Chairman and CEO of Phillips-Van Heusen, one of the largest apparel and footwear companies in the world.

LNK is highly flexible as to the type and structure of its investments, and is comfortable being a minority or majority shareholder. The firm invests up to \$150 million of equity per transaction, with the ability to lead substantially larger investments given its investors' appetite for co-investments. For additional information on LNK Partners, please visit www.LNKpartners.com.

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