

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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THE SILVERFERN GROUP EXPANDS MERCHANT BANKING TEAM – KAYVAN FATEH-TEHRANI JOINS AS MANAGING DIRECTOR

New York, NY February 22, 2011 – The Silverfern Group, Inc. announced today that it has continued the expansion of its senior merchant banking team with the addition of Kayvan Fateh-Tehrani to co-lead Silverfern’s Financial Institutions merchant banking business.

Kayvan brings over 20 years of Investment Banking experience to the Silverfern team, providing Mergers & Acquisitions advice to financial institutions in a number of verticals, including Insurance, Asset Management, Specialty/Consumer Finance, Broker-Dealers, and Wealth Management. He has completed over 40 transactions representing over \$40 billion in transaction value, advising on many of the largest insurance mergers and demutualizations in the last two decades.

Prior to joining Silverfern, Kayvan was a Managing Director at Bear Stearns, where he covered the insurance and asset management sectors. He originated and financed several of the largest leverage buyout transactions in specialty insurance and asset management on behalf of the firm’s private equity clients; including the LBOs of LPL Financial and Direct General Insurance. In addition, he spearheaded the FIG Private Equity Transaction Development function, covering over 100 private equity firms and their financial institution portfolio companies.

Based in New York, Kayvan co-leads Silverfern’s Financial Institutions merchant banking business with a focus on Insurance, Specialty Finance and Asset Management.

Silverfern Chairman & CEO Clive Holmes said “The addition of Kayvan to the Silverfern Team represents a material deepening of our industry expertise in insurance, specialty finance and asset management, all key areas of investment focus for our Private Equity Clients. Kayvan’s depth of experience in his sectors and strong industry CEO relationships will enhance our origination of proprietary non-auction transactions on an exclusive basis”.

About The Silverfern Group, Inc.

The Silverfern Group, Inc. (Silverfern) is an independently-owned Merchant Bank specializing in originating and structuring proprietary (non-auction) buy-side Mergers & Acquisitions opportunities, and through its affiliates Silverfern Co-Investment Partners and Silverfern Debt Advisors in making private equity co-investments and debt investments with relationship private equity firms worldwide. Silverfern’s senior merchant bankers deliver a compelling competitive advantage to its Clients – combining exclusive access to robust proprietary deal flow and leading managers with the highest levels of Wall Street advice, analytical support and negotiating deal experience. The Silverfern Group, Inc. is a U.S. Broker-Dealer. Member FINRA.

Additional information is available at www.silverfern.com

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