

Worldstrides Acquires Field Studies Center of New York and Accent Travel Group

June 18th, 2008 – Student travel organization Worldstrides, backed by Charlesbank Capital Partners and Silverhawk Capital Partners (Silverhawk), has acquired student travel companies Field Studies Center of New York and Accent Travel Group. Terms of the deal and financials of the transaction were not disclosed.

New York-based Field Studies Center, established in 1969, specializes in travel programs focusing on the performing arts, including theater, music, dance and art. Other product offerings are available in fashion merchandising and finance. One of their offerings is the opportunity for middle/high school musical groups such as bands, choirs and orchestras to perform in Carnegie Hall.

Philadelphia based Accent Travel Group, founded in 1977, focuses on providing undergraduate and graduate business students the opportunity to study abroad. This year they will be working with the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business, Yale University School of Management, Columbia University and The College of William and Mary to develop more extensive travel programs for the students. Worldstrides is a Charlottesville, VA based student travel organization. They employ 400 full-time employees and offer educational programs focused on history, science and the arts to destinations spanning across the United States, Canada, Costa Rica, Europe and Asia. Worldstrides is the first organization of its kind to be a supplemental education school and typically sends about 200,000 students across the nation each year.

Reach Worldstrides at 800-468-5899 or visit their website at www.worldstrides.com

Silverhawk Capital Partners is an independent investment firm established in 2005 to invest in lower middle market transactions within the Growth Industrial, Energy/Natural Resources and Business Service sectors. Silverhawk typically invests between \$10 million and \$50 million of equity capital in growth oriented businesses with revenues ranging from \$25 million to \$250 million. Silverhawk is currently investing its \$145 million debut fund, as it begins fundraising for its second fund. Silverhawk has offices in Greenwich, Connecticut and Charlotte, North Carolina.

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