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Pryor Cashman Transaction, ESOP Buyout of International Intimates, Inc., Named as Finalist for "Financing Deal of the Year" by The M&A Advisor

On May 10, 2010, *The M&A Advisor* named 99 finalists in 26 different categories for *The M&A Advisor's* 5th Annual Middle-Market Financing Awards for 2009. The ESOP Buyout of International Intimates, Inc. was named as one of the five finalists in four different categories, including Acquisition Financing Deal of the Year. The four other categories are:

- Middle-Market M&A Financing Deal of the Year (Below \$100 mm)
- Debt Financing Deal of the Year (Below \$75 mm)
- Acquisition Financing Deal of the Year
- Consumer and Retail Products Deal of the Year (\$55 mm and Above).

No other deals were nominated in more than four categories.

The *M&A Advisor* nominations are part of the annual tribute to the outstanding achievements in the middle market financing industry, which culminates in the 5th Annual Middle-Market Financing Awards Gala on June 21, 2010 at The Drake Hotel in Chicago.

According to Rene Rofe, CEO of International Intimates, "this recognition is a tribute to the professionalism of Pryor Cashman LLP, CSG Partners, LLC, and the entire team of bankers and consultants. It was a remarkable achievement that during the difficult 2009 economic environment, we were able to conclude a transaction which allowed the shareholders to monetize at a strong valuation a part of their equity stake while, at the same time, allowing through the ESOP structure all the employees of Intimates to participate in the future growth of the company as equity stakeholders. Pryor Cashman has represented Intimates for over 10-years. Pryor Cashman, with their capital markets expertise and knowledge of the apparel industry, provided the most adept legal counseling and guidance to make this transaction happen."

The International Intimates ESOP transaction closed in March 2009. The Pryor Cashman attorneys working on the transaction included Danielle Schechner, Robert Lamonica, William Levine, Louis Ciccone and Matthew Young.