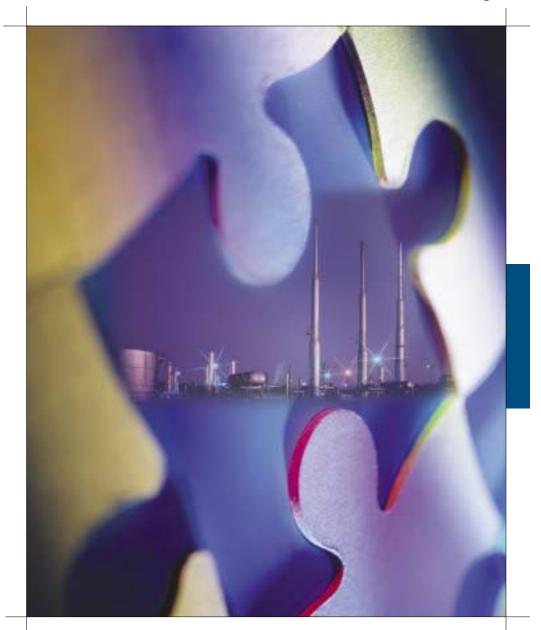
PetroTrends Bywater

Corporate Development Services for the Petroleum Industry



Acquisitions • Divestitures • Alliances • Private Equity Financing

he PetroTrends and Bywater Corporate Development Services (CDS) alliance specializes in providing manufacturers and distributors of lubricants, fuels and related products and potential investors with the services they need to complete small- to midsized acquisitions, divestitures, alliances and private equity financings.

We believe that a company involved in one of these important activities, regardless of the transaction size, deserves a high level of professional assistance. It is our objective to provide this service with integrity and on a cost-effective basis. We therefore focus our efforts on only a limited number of clients' needs and devote the time necessary for a successful program.

Our alliance supports clients in:

- Developing strategy related to acquisitions, divestitures, alliances, and financing.
- Preparing a business for sale.
- Determining the market value of a business.
- Selling all or part of a company.
- Finding appropriate acquisitions.
- Providing due diligence.
- Integrating acquisitions.
- Identifying joint venture or alliance partners.
- Raising private equity or venture financing.

Whether you are looking to buy, sell, create an alliance, find an investor, or invest in a company, we have a program that can be customized to suit your needs:

SELLER PROGRAM **OVERVIEW:**

- Understand seller's goals and objectives.
- Determine market value of the business.



SELLER TIPS

According to research conducted by an independent consulting firm, owners who represent themselves in the sale of their business, rather than use an M&A advisor, are:

- less likely to close deals,
- more likely to receive lower prices (\$500,000 to \$8,500,00 below what should
- more likely to spend excessive time on the transaction, and
 - more likely to have a frustrating experience than owners who use an M&A advisor.

In the process of selling your company, there are three key questions you should expect from the buyer:

What makes your company different from the competition?

How should a new buyer grow your business?

> What would you do if the company received a sizable influx of cash?

- Prepare confidential selling materials for distribution to prospective strategic and financial buyers, highlighting the true value of the business.
- Identify, contact, and qualify potential buyers on a confidential basis.
- Assist seller in negotiating terms of sale.
- Facilitate and track issues until closing.

BUYER PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

- Develop effective search criteria.
- Identify acquisition candidates that meet buyer's criteria.
- Assist buyer in investigating and valuing acquisition prospects.
- Help buyer in structuring and negotiating terms of purchase.
- Assist buyer in arranging financing.
- Help solve problems and track issues until closing.

ALLIANCE PROGRAM **OVERVIEW:**

- Work with client to identify their business' alliance potential.
- Develop alliancing goals and partner criteria.
- Identify alliance candidates that meet client's criteria.
- Assist client in qualifying partner prospects.
- Help client in structuring and negotiating terms of alliance.
- Solve problems and track issues until agreement is reached.

have been realized),



BUYER TIPS

Industry statistics show that approximately 50% of purchase transactions fail to close at the letter-of-intent stage. By pursuing several companies at the same time, a buyer "hedges his bet" and creates leverage.

Not every company is sold to the highest bidder. Many sellers are concerned with culture fit. Their perception of how the buyer will treat them and their employees following the sale is a key factor.

PRIVATE EQUITY PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

- Review capital requirements, determine value of business, and define ownership objectives.
- Develop criteria for potential investor partners.

- Prepare confidential offering materials for distribution to potential investors.
- Identify, contact, and qualify financial and strategic investors on a confidential basis.
- Assist in negotiating financing terms with investors.
- Facilitate and track issues until deal is completed.

ALL THE ELEMENTS YOU NEED FOR SUCCESS

We believe PetroTrends' extensive knowledge and experience in the lubricant and fuel markets, together with Bywater's expertise and practical methodologies in corporate planning services and broad contact network, deliver unique benefits to our clients.



ALLIANCING TIPS Alliances are most attractive when there are strategic gaps in critical differential capabilities that are too expensive or will take too long to develop internally. Two of the most common reasons for forming alliances are to accelerate growth and to gain access to core capabilities.

Before setting off on an alliancing journey, each potential participant needs to critically ask the question: Why am I doing this? There must be a clear understanding of what the business need is.

For more information on services provided by the PetroTrends-Bywater CDS alliance, call us at 203-973-0344 ext. 4107 or 732-494-0405, e-mail us at CDS@bywater-consulting.com or tom_glenn@petrotrends.com, or visit us on the web at www.bywater-consulting.com/corpdev.htm or www.petrotrends.com

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

OUR PROFESSIONALS HAVE EXPERIENCE, EXPERTISE, AND A TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTING PROJECTS IN MARKET SEGMENTS INCLUDING:

- Commercial and industrial lubricants
- Consumer automotive products and services (CAPS)
- Fuels

- Lubricant and fuel additives
- Lubricant basestocks
- Lubricant, fuel and wax consumers
- Metalworking fluids/coolants
- Petroleum waxes
- Process oils
- Supply and distribution

WHICH COMPANIES BENEFIT FROM THE PETROTRENDS-BYWATER ALLIANCE?

- Independent lubricant manufacturers
- Lubricant distributors
- Fuel jobbers

- Quick lube operators
- Fuel and additive suppliers
- C-stores
- Metalworking fluid manufacturers
- Specialty lubricant and chemical companies
- Toll manufacturers and private label packagers

PetroTrends

Your Global Pipeline for Information on the Petroleum Industry

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Creating competitive advantage

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