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**Wednesday
January 19th, 2011**

**A FEW OF TODAY'S
"COMPANIES ON THE BRINK"
AT A GLANCE**

Affiliated Managers Group Inc. arranges a \$750 million credit line...

ASC Hygiene Inc. sells its hygiene and chemicals operations...

Coinstar Inc. lowers its revenue estimate for the fourth quarter...

Custom Cable Industries emerges from Chapter 11...

Dionex Corp.'s suitor to extend its tender offer...

ICOP Digital Inc. is in a default spat...

McClatchy Co. transfers certain properties to contribute to its pension fund...

Nies Insurance Agency Inc. is bought by Brown & Brown Inc....

Pacific Crest Properties is acquired...

Polymer Group Inc. wants to sell \$530 million in senior secured notes...

U.S. One Inc. agrees to be purchased by Russell Investments...

“THE FULL MONTY” COMPANIES ON THE BRINK & OVER THE BRINK BANKRUPTCY NEWS

Arrow Trucking Co. has seen the U.S. Bankruptcy Court approve a request by the bankruptcy trustee to abandon a former corporate office and training facility in Tulsa, Ok. after no offers were received for the two properties. Arrow Trucking filed to liquidate under Chapter 7 last year, listing assets and liabilities of between \$100 million and \$500 million each.

Belmeade Farms LLC, Durham, N.C., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of North Carolina. The firm listed assets and liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million each. The filing was under case number 11-80089. For more information contact the court at 866-222-8029 then enter 14.

Doctors Hospital of Slidell LLC, Slidell, La., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. The firm listed assets and liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million each. The filing was under case number 11-10140. For more information contact the court at 866-375-7879.

Ebro Foods Inc., Chicago, Il., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois. The firm listed assets and liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million each. The filing was under case number 11-01643. For more information contact the court at 866-222-8029 then enter 15.

Excel Storage Products, a bankrupt manufacturer of industrial storage rack systems, is selling off five properties at a Chapter 7 auction. The assets, including properties in Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Dakota, are being sold off by West Auctions Inc.

Fraser Papers Inc., which is operating under protection from creditors under Canada's Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, said that creditors voted against its proposed restructuring plan because it provides for only about a 20% recovery rate.

Rickland Direct LLC, Richmond, Va., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The firm listed liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million. No assets were listed. The filing was under case number 11-30276. For more information contact the court at 800-326-5879.

Siddhi Hospitality LLC, Provo, Ut., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Utah. The firm listed assets of between \$100,000 and \$1 million and liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million. The filing was under case number 11-20549. For more information contact the court at 800-733-6740.

Turpin Meadow Ranch Inc., Harrisburg, Pa., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. The firm listed assets and liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million each. The filing was under case number 11-00278. For more information contact the court at 877-440-2699.

Water Resources International Inc., Phoenix, Az., filed Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona. The firm listed assets of between \$100,000 and \$1 million and liabilities of between \$1 million and \$10 million. The filing was under case number 11-01188. For more information contact the court at 888-549-5336.

DISTRESSED / RAPIDLY-EXPANDING COMPANIES & OTHER COMPANY NEWS

Affiliated Managers Group Inc., Beverly, Ma., arranged a \$750 million line of credit that contains an option to increase the value of the facility by \$150 million. The arrangement replaces an earlier \$770 million facility.

Allegiant Travel Co., a low-cost airline in North Carolina, reported that passenger traffic rose 14% in December from the year-ago month.

ASC Hygiene Inc., an Orange County, Ca. franchisee of hygiene products company Swisher Hygiene Inc. sold its hygiene and chemicals operations to Charlotte, N.C.-based Swisher for about \$1 million in cash and the assumption of debt.

Coinstar Inc., Bellevue, Wa., lowered its estimate for fourth quarter revenue to about \$390 million, down from an earlier projected range of between \$415 million and \$440 million. The firm blamed weakness at its Redbox video-rental business.

Commerce Bancshares Inc., Kansas City, Mo., reported its fourth quarter earnings jumped 25%—to nearly \$62 million, thanks partly to increased noninterest income, a boost in credit card and debit card fees and a drop in problem loans.

CommScope Inc., a Hickory, N.C. manufacturer of coaxial cables and related communications equipment, has been taken private as private-equity firm Carlyle Group of Washington, D.C. wrapped up its \$3.9 billion agreement to buy it.

Cox Communications Inc., Atlanta, Ga., announced a consolidation plan, saying it will combine eleven field systems into nine operating units.

Custom Cable Industries, a maker of custom cable products in Tampa, Fl., has now emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

Daxko, a Birmingham, Al. software firm that provides services for nonprofit organizations, expanded by buying Triangle 2, a consulting services provider, for an undisclosed amount. The merged company will operate under the name Daxho T2 Consulting.

Dionex Corp.'s suitor, Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. of Waltham, Ma., said that it will extend its tender offer for Dionex's shares, saying that less than 20% of the shares had been tendered by a deadline that has now passed. The new deadline extends to 2/16. Thermo Fisher, a provider of scientific tools, earlier said it wanted to acquire Dionex, a Sunnyvale, Ca. chromatography concern, for \$2.1 billion.

Enerlex Resources Inc., San Antonio, Tx., said that it raised \$5 million in proceeds through a private placement of common shares.

EnPro Industries Inc., a Charlotte, N.C. manufacturer of sealing products, polymer bearings and other engineered products, expanded by acquiring the assets of Rome Took and Die Inc., a Rome, Ga. firm that supplies steel brake shoes for heavy-duty trucks, for an undisclosed amount.

Global Access Corp., a Jacksonville, Fl. provider of self-service kiosks, wrapped up two expansion deals that increase the number of kiosks that it has. The company bought 140 ATMs from an undisclosed seller and also acquired Tejas Video Partners, including 260 DVD-rental kiosks. Terms of the deals weren't announced.

Google Inc.'s plans for acquiring **ITA Software Inc.**, announced last summer, is coming under pressure, with the Justice Department said to be readying an antitrust lawsuit to block the \$700 million deal.

Harris Corp., a Melbourne, Fl. communications and information-technology company, won a contract from an unnamed international customer to supply military radios and related gear. The multiyear supply contract is valued at more than \$300 million.

Hasbro Inc., the Pawtucket, R.I. maker of toys, reported that sales for the fourth quarter fell about 7%—to \$1.3 billion, due to weakness in the U.S. market.

ICOP Digital Inc., whose shares have ceased trading on the Nasdaq market, is in a dispute with a partner, FCC LLC, which says that ICOP Digital is in default on an earlier agreement whereby FCC, also known as First Growth Capital, would acquire ICOP Digital's accounts receivable. ICOP Digital, a Lenexa, Ks. manufacturer of video-surveillance equipment, last month announced that it laid off its more than fifty employees and suspended operations as it attempted to restructure and arrange for new financing.

Kosmos Energy, a Dallas, Tx. oil production company, filed an initial public offering with the Securities and Exchange Commission, saying it wants to raise up to \$500 million.

L.T. Hawthorne & Associates Inc., a consulting firm in Kirbyville, Tx., is in an agreement to be purchased by Weaver, a public accounting concern, for an undisclosed amount.

Manatron Inc., a Portage, Mi. provider of property-assessment software for government agencies, expanded its business by acquiring International Land Systems, a Silver Spring, Md. provider of land-management and administration software, for an undisclosed amount.

Manitowoc Co. Inc., the Manitowoc, Wi.-based maker of construction cranes and food equipment, said that it chalked up proceeds of \$124 million from the \$138 million sale of its Kysor/Warren refrigerated display systems unit in Columbus, Ga. to Lennox International Inc. of Dallas, Tx. Manitowoc said that it plans to use the proceeds to trim debt.

McClatchy Co., the Sacramento, Calif.-based newspaper publisher, is transferring ownership of certain real estate to its pension fund and will lease back the properties over a ten-year period. The value of the properties, in the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida and Washington, are valued at nearly \$50 million, which would just about cover the amount that McClatchy wants to contribute to its pension fund this year.

Millennial Media Inc., a cell phone advertising technology firm, announced that it raised \$28 million in venture capital in its fourth round of private funding. That brings to more than \$65 million the amount of money that Millennial has raised to date.

M&T Bank Corp., Buffalo, N.Y., reported its fourth quarter net income surged 49%—to \$204 million. The company cited much stronger net interest income and lower provisions for credit losses.

Nies Insurance Agency Inc., Camas, Wa., has been acquired by Daytona Beach, Fl.-based Brown & Brown Inc. for an undisclosed amount.

Pacific Crest Properties, Truckee, Ca., has sold its assets to Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage for an undisclosed amount.

Petrohawk Energy Corp., a Houston, Tx. oil exploration and production concern, began a private offering of \$300 million in senior notes due in 2018. The proceeds would be used to redeem other senior notes due next year.

Pinnacle Entertainment Inc., a Las Vegas, Nv. casino operator, received approval from the Ohio State Racing Commission to acquire the River Downs Racetrack in Cincinnati, Oh. for \$45 million and now hopes to wrap up the deal by February.

Polymer Group Inc., a Charlotte, N.C. marketer of absorbent and disposable fabrics, wants to sell \$530 million in senior secured notes through a private offering. The offering depends on Polymer Group being acquired by an affiliate of Blackstone Capital Partners, a deal that's slated to be completed at the end of March. Polymer's products are used in the hygiene, industrial and medical sectors.

Progress Energy Inc.'s deal to be acquired by **Duke Energy Corp.** includes a couple of expensive clauses stipulating that either party could face costly fees if the deal falls through. Progress, Raleigh, N.C., would be on the hook for \$400 million to be paid to Duke if it caused the deal to collapse, while Duke, Charlotte, N.C., would have to pay as much as \$675 million if it cancels the deal. The two companies recently agreed to a \$26 billion merger.

Qteros Inc., a California cellulosic ethanol company, announced that it raised \$22 million in its round of private funding, with proceeds slated for funding commercialization of its ethanol production.

RockYou Inc., Redwood City, Ca., expanded its offerings by acquiring Playdemic, a British developer of social games, for an undisclosed amount.

Scolr Pharma Inc., a Bothell, Wa. biotech firm, has ceased trading its shares on the American Stock Exchange, moving its shares to the Over The Counter Bulletin Board. Shares of Scolr, which has operated in the red in three of its last four years, had fallen below minimum listing requirements regarding stockholders' equity.

Spring Wellness Center in Houston, Tx. was suspended from operating a pain clinic by the Texas Medical Board, which cited the facility as a “continuing threat to the public welfare”.

Starbucks Corp., Seattle, Wa., is moving toward entering the market in India, saying it reached a nonbinding memorandum of understanding with Tata Ltd. that will allow Starbucks to roast coffee beans at a Tata facility in India.

Talecris Biotherapeutics Inc.'s suitor, Grifols SA of Spain, reportedly sold \$1.1 billion in corporate bonds to fill out a financing package needed for its proposed acquisition of the Research Triangle Park, N.C. biotech firm,

Tasty Baking Co., Philadelphia, Pa., won an extension on debt payments to Citizens Bank that were due 1/1--until June.

Terracon Consultants Inc., an employee-owned Olathe, Ks. engineering consulting firm, got a little bigger by purchasing Stafford Consulting Engineers in Charlotte, N.C. for an undisclosed amount. Stafford specializes in the construction of building exteriors.

Tetra Tech Inc., Pasadena, Ca., wants to bolster its water-management and related services as it enters the oil-sands market. The firm announced that it acquired Fransen Engineering, a consulting company in Canada, for an undisclosed amount. The transaction should close in the second quarter.

Thermo Fluids Inc., an oil-recycling company in Scottsdale, Az., expanded by acquiring Nevada-based Bango Oil for an undisclosed amount. Thermo, now with operations in nineteen states, has been increasing the size of its network in the West.

TXU Energy, Irving, Tx., said it will spend several million dollars to expand its call-center operations in Irving, where it will hire seventy-five employees by the summer.

U.S. One Inc., Reno, Nv., is in an agreement to be purchased by Russell Investments of Seattle, Wa. for an undisclosed amount.

Valero Energy Corp., a San Antonio, Tx. independent oil refiner, agreed with Mascoma Corp. and its Frontier Renewable Resources LLC unit to help finance the construction of commercial-scale cellulosic ethanol refineries. Valero itself would invest up to \$50 million in the project, to be located in Kinross Charter Township, Mi.

World News Ltd., a magazine seller in Clayton, Mo., has been acquired by Cowley Distributing Inc. of Jefferson City, Mo. for an undisclosed amount. Another World News newsstand location in Westport, Mo. has been shut down.

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