

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Hawkes Peers & Company and Co-Capital Partners form  
Fund Merger Advisory Practice**

**New York, NY and Palo Alto, CA** - Hawkes Peers & Company and Co-Capital Partners have jointly formed a Fund Merger Advisory Practice to assist individual fund managers, investors and corporate venture groups in evaluating and choosing among the available alternatives to be considered in the current consolidation of the Venture Capital and Private Equity industries.

The new practice is focused on supporting the rapidly growing base of Venture, Corporate and Buyout Funds looking for advice in assessing the possibility of merging, buying or selling their funds without adversely impacting the underlying portfolio of companies, limited partners or the general partners managing the funds. The new venture will focus on the complete lifecycle of these fund transactions from analyzing and prioritizing the benefits and risks among the multiple opportunities to choosing and implementing the best alternative for all participants. Leading this practice are Helen MacKenzie, Managing Director of Co-Capital Partners, and Alex Brecher, Managing Director at Hawkes Peers.

Mr. Brecher currently leads Hawkes Peers & Co.'s Venture and Private Equity practice. In addition to his experience in leading that practice, he was previously Vice President of Marketing for IDT Corporation and Vice President of Business and Corporate Development at First Financial. Mr. Brecher was the co-founder of Sixth Degree, a business advisory firm to venture-backed companies, which has been merged into Hawkes-Peers. He began his career with Rein & Company, management consulting firm. His deal experience and understanding of the "people issues" is crucial as he assists clients to assemble the best team that can execute a firm's chosen strategy. Mr. Brecher has been a director of numerous companies and non-profit organizations.

Ms. MacKenzie, Managing Director of Co-Capital Partners has worked with multiple venture capital firms over the last 14 years from small to billion dollar funds. She advises venture firms on investment and fund management along with limited partner and portfolio company relationships to maximize investor returns. She also works with individual portfolio companies generally on broad business issues that include financial strategies, management, team, governance, partnerships, including merger or acquisition candidates and liquidations. Previously, Ms. MacKenzie was a Vice President at Bank of America. Ms. MacKenzie has been a fund advisor and director of numerous companies and non-profit organizations.

“We see a strong market need for a practice focused on these transactions. In the few months since we’ve started this practice at Hawkes Peers, we are surprised at the reception we have had from our clients to this idea.” Mr. Brecher commented. “Our partnership with Helen and Co-Capital Partners adds the fund management expertise to Hawkes Peers’ people expertise, leading to real benefits for our clients and funds of all sizes.”

The Fund Merger process can be beneficial to funds of any size, its managers, its limited partners, as well as the founders and managers of the portfolio companies. Large funds may need to add partners in a time when professionals, with strong track records, are having difficulty raising funds. Mid-size funds may want to satisfy succession issues raised by limited partners. Smaller funds and partnerships may want to collaborate with funds with similar investing focus and style to bring more value and investing dollars to their underlying portfolio companies. Hawkes Peers and Co-Capital have experience working closely with these funds to develop unique solutions, provide access to other funds and managers, and ultimately accomplish their unique goals.

#### About Hawkes Peers & Company

Hawkes Peers & Company is an executive search and consulting firm that specializes in assisting companies to attract proven strategic leadership talent. Since the 1980’s, Hawkes Peers has focused on building its network of individuals from top-tier strategy consulting firms and world-class corporations who are known for being thought leaders in their industries. Hawkes Peers leverages this established network to identify candidates with exceptional credentials and a track record of success in investment management, general management, strategic planning, marketing, business development, senior sales, and operational roles.

#### About Co-Capital Partners

Co-Capital Partners is a private equity investment and advisory firm based in Palo Alto, California. Co-Capital focuses exclusively on the alternative asset class, assisting new and emerging funds that want to help create and nurture companies that integrate emerging technologies with sustainable business models to create value that outlives the IPO lock-up period. Co-Capital Partners can help improve the investing value chain by bringing transparent qualitative analyses, valuation and reporting to private and corporate investors, private equity firms and their portfolio companies.