



May 15, 2006

## **BUCKINGHAM CAPITAL PARTNERS ACQUIRES FAIRFIELD MINT, LLC**

Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P. announced today that it acquired Fairfield Mint, LLC – [www.fairfieldmint.com](http://www.fairfieldmint.com). Based in Norwalk, CT, the Company is the third largest direct marketer of die-case automotive replicas in the U.S. The Company markets die-case replicas of automobiles, motorcycles, airplanes and boats with designs that stay true to their eras and appeals to an audience of nostalgic collectors. Joseph Grabowski, a member of Buckingham's Executive Board and the former Chief Executive Officer of Specialty Catalog Corp. will be the President at Fairfield Mint.

Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P. invested alongside other minority equity investors of Encore Capital, Inc. in the acquisition of Fairfield Mint, LLC. Patriot Capital, L.P. in Baltimore, MD provided mezzanine debt financing. TD Banknorth, N.A. provided a senior credit facility to complete the acquisition from the Sellers who were advised by Tucker Alexander in Princeton, NJ.

Albert Naggar, Managing Partner of Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P., said "We are excited about Fairfield Mint and see it as a strong fit for Joe who has a long history of experience in the direct marketing industry from his leadership positions at Specialty Catalog, J.Crew and Doubleday Books. Joe has already identified several strategic initiatives that have growth potential and we look forward to working with him towards achieving them."

Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P., the Managing Partners' second private equity fund, has been established to make control equity investments in leveraged buyouts of lower middle market industrial and manufacturing companies based in the U.S. This is the fifth investment by Buckingham in the past 18 months. Prior investments have been made in Rostra Tool Company in Branford, CT, Aerovox Corp. in New Bedford, MA, Process Equipment Company in Tipp City, OH, and Trantech Radiator Products, Inc. in Edgefield, SC. Buckingham is located at 950 Third Avenue, 19<sup>th</sup> floor, New York, NY 10022. The web page is [www.buckinghamcapital.com](http://www.buckinghamcapital.com), and the general phone number is 212-752-0500.