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BUCKINGHAM CAPITAL PARTNERS ACQUIRES ROSTRA TOOL COMPANY

Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P. announced today that it acquired Rostra Tool Company. The Company is the largest U.S. designer and manufacturer of professional specialty hand crimping tools for the electrical, electronic, telecommunications, cable television, and plumbing markets. Rostra operates from a 24,000 square foot facility in Branford, CT that supports engineering and prototyping, manufacturing, assembly, and all personnel.

Ironwood Equity Fund, LP a \$70 million private equity fund based in Avon, CT, invested in the preferred equity of Rostra. Ironwood Equity is an affiliate of Ironwood Capital, a \$150 million fund management company that invests both equity and subordinated debt in growing middle market companies. Fifth Street Capital LLC in White Plains, NY provided mezzanine debt and common equity financing. TD Banknorth, N.A. provided a senior credit facility to complete the acquisition from the Sellers who were advised by W. Y. Campbell & Company in Detroit, MI.

Shail B. Sheth, Managing Partner of Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P., said "Rostra is a leader with strong growth potential and we are excited to have Fifth Street and Ironwood on board with us as equity co-investors. Their knowledge, experience and network in this market as well as close geographical proximity to Rostra will help us in monitoring the company and meeting new growth objectives." Tom Mistler, Operating Partner of Buckingham Capital Partners, L.P., said "Rostra markets Sargent Quality Tools™, the premier brand in the crimping tool market with a long history of quality, durability and performance. The Sargent name along with a proprietary knowledge-base of highly engineered professional-grade hand-tools has solidified Rostra's leadership and will allow the company to capitalize on new growth opportunities and add to its existing base of active customers."

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 fourth investment by Buckingham in the past 10 months. Prior investments have been made in 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, 19th floor, New York, NY 10022. The web page is www.buckinghamcapital.com, and the general phone number is 212-752-0500.