

Industry Insights

# Staffing Industry M&A Landscape

October 2013

## Summary

- 74 Staffing Industry M&A transactions were reported in the first nine months of 2013, a modest 5% decrease over the 78 transactions announced in the first nine months of 2012.
  - > 62 unique buyers completed staffing transactions in the first nine months of 2013.
- 25 Staffing Industry M&A transactions completed by 22 different buyers were reported in the third quarter of 2013.
- Privately held staffing buyers accounted for 81% of the acquisitions in the first nine months of 2013, while public buyers completed 19%.
- Strategic buyers accounted for 95% of the staffing acquisitions in the first nine months of 2013, with private equity (financial) buyers investing in a new platform acquisition accounting for 5% of the transactions.
- IT staffing continues to be the most active staffing M&A sector, with 22 transactions reported in the first nine months of 2013. Commercial staffing is next with 18 announced transactions YTD 2013.

- IT staffing and healthcare staffing companies are drawing the most buyer interest in the professional staffing sectors.
- While buyers of staffing businesses continue to be selective, companies with a history of strong revenue growth, high profitability, diversified customer bases and outstanding management teams committed to staying with the business post-transaction continue to fare well in the staffing M&A marketplace.

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# M&A Activity – Staffing Industry

#### **M&A Overview**

The third quarter of 2013 saw 25 staffing industry M&A transactions completed by 22 different buyers. For the first nine months of 2013, 74 staffing industry M&A transactions have been completed by 62 unique buyers. These 74 announced transactions YTD represent a modest 5% decrease vs. the first nine months of 2012, however M&A activity within the staffing industry remains robust with new buyers continuing to enter the industry.

The increasing transaction activity which began in 2012 and that is continuing in 2013 is indicative of the strong operating environment for many temporary staffing businesses, especially those providing IT staffing services. As valuations remain high and operating earnings are strong, many staffing business owners are taking advantage of this window of opportunity to sell their businesses to other strategic buyers seeking to grow their businesses faster over the next several years.

Acquisition activity remains primarily driven by privately-held strategic buyers (many backed by private equity), as the larger public staffing companies account for only a handful of transactions each year. In the first nine months of 2013, 81% of the transactions were completed by privately owned buyers, with only 19% acquired by publicly traded companies.

Strategic buyers (including those staffing companies owned by private equity) completed nearly 95% of the staffing acquisitions in the first nine months of 2013 and all but one of the transactions in the third quarter. Private equity (financial) buyers remain a viable option for the largest and best performing staffing companies, with 4 new platform investments acquired by private equity groups in the first nine months of 2013.

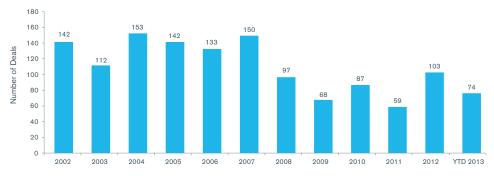
IT staffing continues to be the most attractive staffing segment for acquirers, as 8 transactions were reported in the third quarter of 2013. IT staffing was also the most active sector in the first nine months of 2013, with

announced transactions. Information technology staffing companies continue to see widespread demand from buyers and generate very strong valuations, while commercial staffing M&A activity is driven mostly by light industrial staffing buyers seeking to expand their geographic market coverage or gain access to new customers.

22 announced transactions, while commercial staffing was the second most active segment with 18

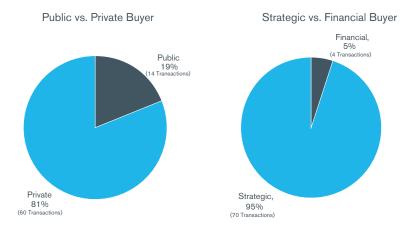
While buyers of staffing businesses continue to be selective, those companies with a history of strong revenue growth, high profitability, diversified customer bases and outstanding management teams committed to staying with the business post-transaction continue to fare well in the staffing M&A marketplace.

Exhibit 1: Yearly Staffing Transaction Volume - 2002 to September 30, 2013



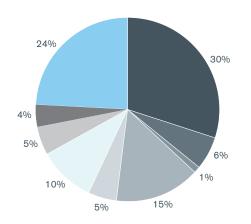
Source: Duff & Phelps Securities, Staffing Industry Analysts, Capital IQ

**Exhibit 2: Staffing Industry Transaction Activity** 



Source: Duff & Phelps Securities, Staffing Industry Analysts, Capital IQ

Exhibit 3: M&A Activity by Staffing Industry Sector - YTD September 30, 2013



Source: Duff & Phelps Securities	, Staffing	Industry	Analysts,	Capital	IQ
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actions

## Notable Staffing Transactions – Q3 2013



#### Analysts International Corp.

American CyberSystems, Inc. (ACS), a global information technology services company, and Analysts International Corporation (AIC), a leading information technology services company, announced they have signed a definitive agreement under which ACS will acquire AIC in a transaction valued at approximately \$35.0 million. Under terms of the agreement, ACS will commence a tender offer for all outstanding shares of AIC for \$6.45 per share, in cash. AIC's Board of Directors unanimously approved the transaction and recommended that AIC's shareholders accept ACS's offer. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2013. Last year, AIC reported break-even earnings on revenue of \$106 million. AIC currently has about 870 employees and operates in 14 U.S. cities.



Source: Public data and Capital IQ

#### Joulé, Inc.

System One, a leading provider of specialized workforce solutions, announced the acquisition of Joule Inc. and its subsidiaries, an established group of market-leading businesses operating under a single corporate umbrella. After the transaction, Joule's extensive suite of professional and technical staffing solutions will operate as divisions of System One. Joulé operates a number of individual business lines, including Joulé Staffing Solutions, Joulé Engineering Staffing Solutions, Joulé Clinical & Scientific, CM Access, Joulé Industrial Contractors and Mountain Ltd. The combined companies will generate annual revenues approaching \$500 million, with more than 6,000 employees and roughly 40 offices throughout the U.S.



#### Anteo Group

The CSI Companies acquired Anteo Group, an Atlanta-based IT staffing firm. It is the first acquisition for CSI and gives the Jacksonville, Fla.-based company a footprint in Atlanta, the Southeast's largest market, where several CSI clients have locations. Anteo will continue to operate under its own brand, and founder Dion DeLoof will remain with the company as head of the Atlanta office. CSI is part of Recruit Co. Holdings Ltd., one of the largest staffing firms in the world. The CSI Companies comprises three divisions: CSI Professional, CSI Healthcare IT and CSI Tech.



#### The Agency Staffing

The Agency Staffing, a commercial staffing provider based in West Dundee, Ill. was acquired by PeopleLink Staffing Solutions, a division of Groupe Crit. The Agency Staffing was founded in 1985 and operates seven offices in Illinois and Wisconsin, with expected revenue of approximately \$40 million in the 2013 fiscal year. The acquisition will give Groupe Crit U.S. revenue of \$250 million on a pro forma basis in 2013. The Agency Staffing also marks the fifth acquisition in North America by Groupe Crit.



#### **RCG Staffing**

Brazilian IT consulting and solutions firm Stefanini has acquired RCG Staffing, the IT human resources division of RCG Global Services. Founded in 1974, RCG works in overseas recruitment with an operating platform located in the Philippines, along with U.S. operations in Philadelphia and Houston.

This is Stefanini's 10th purchase in four years and its third in the U.S., where the company also acquired Tech Team in 2010 and CXI in 2011. According to the companies involved, the acquisition is expected to strengthen Stefanini's presence in the U.S. market while reinforcing its recruiting capabilities. Stefanini already has recruitment operations in India, which will be complemented by the RCG Staffing center in the Philippines, a country in which Stefanini currently runs one of its largest off-shore services.



#### Ambrose Employer Group

TriNet Group, a portfolio company of General Atlantic, completed its acquisition of professional employer organization Ambrose Employer Group. New York-based Ambrose ranks as the sixth-largest PEO in the U.S. with a primary concentration in hedge funds and private equity firms. The Ambrose acquisition, first announced last September 2012, marks the second major acquisition for TriNet. The company had acquired Strategic Outsourcing Inc., the fourth-largest PEO in the U.S., in October 2012. Ambrose's team will join TriNet, and clients of both organizations will see a continuity of service, according to TriNet.

# Staffing M&A Transactions – Q3 2013

Date	Seller	Buyer	EV (\$ in millions)	EV / Rev.	Business Description
7/1/13	Vermillion Group	PrincetonOne	NA	NA	Provides executive search services for the technology, financial services, managed care and healthcare sectors
7/8/13	Ambrose Employer Group	TriNet	NA	NA	Provides professional employer services to hedge funds and private equity firms
7/9/13	RCG Staffing	Stefanini (Brazil)	NA	NA	Provides IT recruiting and staffing services in the northeast and southern states of U.S.
7/10/13	AllStar Staffing	Decton Inc.	NA	NA	Provides nurse staffing in Carlsbad, California area
7/10/13	Heartsill Payroll Professionals	Extra Help, Inc.	NA	NA	Provides payroll and benefits administration services in Montgomery, Alabama
7/15/13	The Employment Line	In Job (Italy)	NA	NA	Provides office personnel and nonprofit organizations in the health, service and arts fields, among others
7/15/13	PeakPoint Technologies, Inc.	Oasis Systems, Inc.	NA	NA	Offers professional staffing solutions in the areas of software development, database engineering and administration, and Web application development
7/17/13	Revosys Corp	ONS Interactive Solutions Pvt Ltd. (India)	NA	NA	Offers permanent and temporary IT staffing, application development & integeration, and outsourcing services
7/17/13	Career Start, Inc.	Mobile Dynamic Marketing, Inc.	NA	NA	Recruits from entry level positions to seasoned professionals for various industries and trades. Also provides PEO, background checks, drug screening, onsite support, risk management, hiring incentives, and employee support services
7/24/13	DriveForce Transportation Services	TransForce Inc.	NA	NA	Provides commercial truck drivers and industrial labor throughout Oklahoma
7/30/13	The Agency Staffing	PeopleLink Staffing Solutions	NA	NA	Provides commercial staffing Illinois and neighboring states of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota
7/30/13	Summit Technical Services	The Reserves Network	NA	NA	Provider of engineering, information technology and professional design staffing
7/31/13	Mastech Healthcare	Accountable Healthcare Staffing Inc.	NA	NA	Specializes in placing operating room nurses, surgical technicians, post anesthesia care unit nurses, sterile process technicians, physical therapists and occupational therapists in the Chicago area
7/31/13	Cursastat Healthcare (Mastech)	Accountable Healthcare Staffing Inc.	NA	NA	Provides per diem nursing and travel nursing, and is based in Phoenix
8/14/13	Bradley-Morris Holdings, LLC	Pine Tree Equity	NA	NA	Specializes in military placement of candidates in the areas of engineering, operations management, manufacturing, telecommunications, and sales/sales management
8/19/13	Control Solutions International Inc.	Staffing 360 Solutions Inc.	\$3	NA	Provides risk management and consulting, internal audit, and information technology solutions
8/19/13	Staff Payroll	Landrum Professional Employer Services Inc.	NA	NA	Provides payroll services, human resources and comprehensive employee leasing services to small businesses in northwest Florida and south Alabama
8/28/13	Rochester Global Ltd.	ApTask Consulting LLC	NA	NA	A professional recruiter working throughout Europe and Africa in the provision of IT and engineering technical staff
8/28/13	Analysts International Corp.	American CyberSystems Inc.	\$35	0.34x	Provides staffing services, such as IT professionals; consultant network comprising full-time and temporary employees and contract professionals; staff augmentation services; and managed teams
9/3/13	Joulé Inc.	System One	NA	NA	Provides placement of engineering, scientific, and clinical professionals; communications, physician, practice provider, and executive search services for healthcare organizations; temporary staffing in administrative, corporate support, customer service, and managerial areas; and interactive, creative, and marketing professionals
9/4/13	Clinical Staffing Services	Decton Inc.	NA	NA	Provides healthcare staffing services, including clinical staffing and travel nurses in California
9/9/13	Anteo Group	The CSI Companies	NA	NA	Provides IT staffing services including technology consulting and staff augmentation solutions
9/9/13	Cal-West Personnel Inc.	Decton Inc.	NA	NA	Specializes in specialize in technical and light industrial staffing in the areas of accounting, legal, customer service, clerical, data entry, general office, light industrial, including certified forklift and ISO certified, computer technology and programming, technical services, medical light industrial, call center, marketing, sales, and more
9/16/13	Prolinx Services, Inc.	Tiffany Stuart Solutions, Inc.	NA	NA	Provides contract, contract-to-hire, managed service, and direct hire staffing models for roles related to information technology, business/finance, healthcare, and human resources
9/17/13	Bluebird Care Franchises Limited	Interim HealthCare Inc.	NA	NA	Provides in-home care staffing services for UK and Ireland
Source: Capit	al IQ				

# Public Trading Data for Staffing Companies

(\$ in millions, except per share amounts)

Company Name	Ticker	Price	52-Week		_ Market	rket Enterprise	LTM	EBITDA		_ LTM	EV / EBITDA		% of 52
		9/30/13	Low	High	Cap	Value	Revenue	LTM	2013E	EBITDA Margin	LTM	2013E	Week High
Commercial Staffing													
Adecco S.A.	ADEN	\$71.21	\$39.46	\$54.20	\$13,446.6	\$14,864.4	\$25,730.3	\$1,132.3	\$1,245.8	4.4%	13.1x	11.9x	131.4%
Barrett Business Services Inc.	BBSI	38.09	15.68	39.49	267.1	229.3	465.1	23.4	30.6	5.0	9.8	7.5	96.5
CDI Corp.	CDI	17.13	13.36	18.61	331.3	320.1	1,082.8	37.3	33.9	3.4	8.6	9.5	92.0
Kelly Services, Inc.	KELY.A	15.74	11.26	18.09	583.7	597.0	5,411.3	85.4	94.4	1.6	7.0	6.3	87.0
ManpowerGroup Inc.	MAN	42.44	30.53	48.28	3,329.7	3,636.1	20,184.5	580.6	638.0	2.9	6.3	5.7	87.9
Randstad Holding NV	RAND	36.66	27.06	39.67	6,308.2	8,154.4	21,526.2	682.4	895.8	3.2	12.0	9.1	92.4
TrueBlue, Inc.	TBI	15.75	11.84	18.22	610.0	490.6	1,492.9	69.5	81.4	4.7	7.1	6.0	86.4
Average <sup>(2)</sup>					\$2,232.6	\$2,639.63	\$9,939.5	\$291.0	\$348.7	3.7%	8.9x	7.7x	91.2%
Median					\$610.0	\$597.0	\$5,411.3	\$85.4	\$94.4	3.4%	8.6x	7.5x	92.0%
Professional Staffing													
Adecco S.A.	ADEN	\$71.21	\$39.46	\$54.20	\$13,446.6	\$14,864.4	\$25,730.3	\$1,132.3	\$1,245.8	4.4%	13.1x	11.9x	131.4%
Analysts International Corp.	ANLY	3.17	2.74	7.30	16.1	11.7	102.3	1.1	NA	1.1	10.5	NA	43.5
Ciber, Inc.	CBR	3.34	2.70	4.76	245.6	254.7	889.5	28.0	29.3	3.1	9.1	8.7	70.2
Hudson Global, Inc	HSON	4.48	3.23	5.98	143.2	109.3	709.2	(2.1)	(13.4)	NM	NM	NM	74.9
Kelly Services, Inc.	KELY.A	15.74	11.26	18.09	583.7	597.0	5,411.3	85.4	94.4	1.6	7.0	6.3	87.0
Kforce Inc.	KFRC	14.34	10.34	15.40	514.9	510.7	1,089.3	53.0	58.7	4.9	9.6	8.7	93.1
ManpowerGroup Inc.	MAN	42.44	30.53	48.28	3,329.7	3,636.1	20,184.5	580.6	638.0	2.9	6.3	5.7	87.9
On Assignment Inc.	ASGN	20.28	10.65	20.93	1,065.1	1,490.8	1,624.2	166.7	167.3	10.3	8.9	8.9	96.9
Randstad Holding NV	RAND	36.66	27.06	39.67	6,308.2	8,154.4	21,526.2	682.4	895.8	3.2	12.0	9.1	92.4
RCM Technologies Inc.	RCMT	5.15	4.89	6.72	62.0	31.7	155.5	7.3	7.4	4.7	4.3	4.3	76.6
Resources Connection Inc.	RECN	11.93	9.63	14.49	489.2	366.3	556.3	46.0	46.5	8.3	8.0	7.9	82.3
Robert Half International Inc.	RHI	31.82	25.10	32.32	4,478.3	4,190.5	4,154.3	429.0	449.8	10.3	9.8	9.3	98.5
TSR, Inc.	TSRI	3.02	2.77	5.69	6.0	(2.2)	44.9	(0.7)	NA	NM	3.1	NA	53.1
Average <sup>(2)</sup>					\$1,566.9	\$1,759.4	\$5,127.5	\$189.0	\$265.3	4.8%	8.5x	8.1x	83.0%
Median					\$514.9	\$510.7	\$1,089.3	\$53.0	\$94.4	4.4%	9.0x	8.7x	87.0%

<sup>(1) \$</sup> Millions, except for per share data

Source: Capital IQ; for definitions refer to page 7

<sup>(2)</sup> Excludes the highest and lowest values

<sup>(3)</sup> EBITDA does not reflect adjustments for extraordinary items

# Public Trading Data for Staffing Companies

		Price 9/30/13											
Company Name	Ticker		52-Week		Market	Enterprise	LTM	EBITDA		_ LTM	EV / EBITDA		— % of 52
			Low	High	Сар	Value	Revenue	LTM	2013E	EBITDA Margin	LTM	2013E	Week High
Healthcare Staffing													
AMN Healthcare Services Inc.	AHS	\$11.55	\$3.86	\$12.17	\$512.7	\$705.0	\$997.8	\$71.0	\$77.4	7.1%	9.9x	9.1x	94.9%
Cross Country Healthcare, Inc.	CCRN	4.80	3.80	6.73	148.3	175.3	445.1	5.3	5.8	1.2	NM	NM	71.3
On Assignment Inc.	ASGN	20.28	10.65	20.93	1,065.1	1,490.8	1,624.2	166.7	167.3	10.3	8.9	8.9	96.9
Average <sup>(2)</sup>					\$575.4	\$790.4	\$1,022.4	\$81.0	\$83.5	6.2%	9.4x	9.0x	87.7%
Median					\$512.7	\$705.0	\$997.8	\$71.0	\$77.4	7.1%	9.4x	9.0x	94.9%
Executive and Retained Search													
CTPartners Executive Search Inc.	CTP	\$4.56	\$3.32	\$7.10	\$31.8	\$524.3	\$125.6	\$4.1	\$4.5	3.2%	NM	NM	64.2%
Heidrick & Struggles International Inc.	HSII	15.26	11.12	23.95	274.2	1,268.7	446.2	31.6	41.9	7.1	NM	NM	63.7
Korn/Ferry International	KFY	15.86	12.10	18.75	770.8	1,414.9	854.6	93.8	89.7	11.0	15.1	15.8	84.6
Average <sup>(2)</sup>					\$359.0	\$1,069.3	\$475.5	\$43.1	\$45.4	7.1%	15.1x	15.8x	70.8%
Median					\$274.2	\$1,268.7	\$446.2	\$31.6	\$41.9	7.1%	15.1x	15.8x	64.2%

#### **Definitions**

PEG Ratio: Price earnings to growth

**EBITDA:** Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization

**EPS:** Earnings Per Share

Enterprise Value: Market Capitalization + Total Debt + Preferred Equity + Minority Interest - Cash and Short Term Investments

LTM: Last Twelve Months

(1) \$ Millions, except for per share data

(2) Excludes the highest and lowest values

(3) EBITDA does not reflect adjustments for extraordinary items

Source: Capital IQ

# Selected Duff & Phelps Staffing Transactions

#### Sell Side Advisory

InStaff Holding Corporation, a portfolio company of North Texas Opportunity Fund LP, has been acquired by BG Staffing

# INSTAFF

Exclusive advisor to InStaff Holding Corporation

#### Sell Side Advisory

Providus Holdings, Ltd. has been acquired by DTI, a portfolio company of Harvest Partners



Exclusive advisor to Providus Holdings, Ltd.

#### Sell Side Advisory

Addison Group has been acquired by Addison Search, a portfolio company of Lake Capital



Exclusive advisor to Addison Group

#### Sell Side Advisory

Extrinsic, LLC has been acquired by BG Staffing, a portfolio company of Taglich Private Equity



Exclusive advisor to Extrinsic, LLC

#### Sell Side Advisory

Prescott Legal Search, Inc. and Prescott Legal Professionals, LP have been acquired by Special Counsel, a division of MPS Group, Inc.

#### PRESCOTT LEGAL SEARCH

Exclusive advisor to Prescott Legal Search and Prescott Legal Professionals

#### Sell Side Advisory

TSG IT Resources has been acquired by TEKsystems



Exclusive advisor to TSG IT Resources

#### Sell Side Advisory

National Technical Systems, Inc. has sold its IT staffing business to Strategic Staffing Solutions



Exclusive advisor to National Technical Systems, Inc.

#### Buy Side Advisory

Staffing Now, Inc. has acquired Q&A Recruiting, LLP

STAFFING NOW, INC.®

Initiated the transaction on behalf of Staffing Now, Inc.

#### Buy Side Advisory

LTN Staffing, LLC has acquired BG Personnel Services



Initiated the transaction on behalf of LTN Staffing, LLC

#### Buy Side Advisory

Wicresoft Co., Ltd. has acquired TSRI, Inc.

#### WICKESOFT

Initiated the transaction on behalf of Wicresoft Co., Ltd.

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