

DECEMBER 2007

Valor Equity Partners announces partnership with Management of Smith Equipment Rental and Services, Inc. and SERSI, LP (collectively “Smith Equipment”).

Headquartered in Carthage, Texas, Smith Equipment provides integrated midstream pipeline infrastructure and production services to natural gas producers in a multi state region surrounding Texas. As part of the recapitalization, management maintained a substantial equity interest.

Advising Smith Equipment on the transaction were Focus Strategies and GulfStar Group. Austin based Focus Strategies provides M&A, private placement, general corporate finance, and valuation advisory services to middle-market operating and financial services companies. Houston based GulfStar Group is a leading middle-market investment and merchant bank. Through its merchant banking affiliate, the firm places direct equity and subordinated debt investments in acquisition-oriented growth strategies.