



August 25, 2010 – Cleary Gull Inc. advises World Data Products, Inc. in its sale to Prospect Partners, LLC and Management

Cleary Gull Inc. is pleased to announce the sale of World Data Products, Inc. to Prospect Partners, LLC and management from a group of shareholders led by private equity firm Svoboda Capital Partners, LLC of Chicago, IL, and Bank of America's Global Principal Investments Group. Cleary Gull acted as exclusive financial advisor to World Data.

Located in Minnetonka, Minnesota, World Data (www.wdpi.com) is a leading independent provider of refurbished server, storage, and networking equipment solutions and services for leading IT platforms. As a leader in the highly fragmented market for refurbished IT hardware, World Data stands out as one of the largest independent resellers with a reputation for quality products, reliable service, and competitive prices.

"World Data is run by an exceptional management team that is well-known in the IT industry," said Rick Tuttle, a Founding Principal at Prospect Partners. "They have built the company into a top player in the highly fragmented niche IT hardware services industry by developing extensive expertise across platforms – including Cisco Systems, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, and Sun Microsystems – and by servicing customers throughout the entire hardware ownership cycle with solutions that are high-quality, competitively priced, and immediately available. Our success has come from partnering with great management and we think this is a terrific opportunity."

Prospect Partners (www.prospect-partners.com) is a leading lower-middle-market private equity firm investing in smaller lower-middle-market companies, managing \$270 million in two funds. A highly experienced, active, and committed small-company investor, Prospect Partners focuses exclusively on management-led leveraged recapitalizations and acquisitions of niche market



leaders with revenues typically between \$10 million and \$50 million. Since its inception in 1998, Prospect Partners has invested nationwide in nearly 80 companies within a broad range of niche manufacturing, distribution, and specialty services markets.

Cleary Gull (www.clearygull.com) is an employee-owned firm providing specialized financial services through two operating divisions: Investment Banking and Investment Management Services. Cleary Gull's investment bankers help clients achieve their financial and business goals by advising on exclusive sales, mergers and acquisitions, raising private debt and equity capital, and other transactions. Cleary Gull's core ideology and mantra is "*A Firm Belief in the Entrepreneurial Spirit.*"

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