



MILESTONE  
PARTNERS

## Blaschak Coal Corp. Establishes New Mining Operations

**Radnor, PA, January 6, 2011** – Milestone Partners is pleased to announce that in late 2010 its portfolio company Blaschak Coal Corp. (“Blaschak” or the “Company”) completed an add-on transaction in Lattimer, PA, where it purchased a processing plant and secured long-term rights to mine coal. Milestone and other shareholders invested additional equity into Blaschak to fund the acquisition.

The project encompasses a large area in Luzerne County, near Hazleton, and mining will focus on the high quality anthracite of the Mammoth vein in the Lattimer basin. In addition to mining and processing anthracite, Blaschak will also supply rock from the site for road construction. The project is expected to create 15 to 20 new jobs for the Company’s union workforce. A large portion of the project’s coal production is expected to be consumed by the rebounding global steel industry, including a number of new export customers.

John Nowaczyk, Principal at Milestone, said “Milestone is excited to support Blaschak with the capital for this project, which substantially increases both Blaschak’s reserves and production capacity. We are committed to providing Blaschak with the capital to make future investments as well.”

For more information, please contact [John Nowaczyk](#) or [Scott Warren](#) at Milestone Partners.

**Blaschak Coal Corp.** ([www.blaschakcoal.com](http://www.blaschakcoal.com)) is a miner, preparer and marketer of anthracite, a relatively rare form of coal that has high carbon content and low levels of impurities, and burns virtually smokeless, making it a valuable fuel or carbon source for a variety of applications. Blaschak is a market leader and one of the few fully integrated U.S. anthracite companies with a large reserve base, multiple mines, multiple preparation plants, a bagging plant, both rail and truck loading facilities and extensive marketing operations serving a wide range of end markets, such as home heating, steel, sugar and water filtration.

**Milestone Partners** ([www.milestonepartners.com](http://www.milestonepartners.com)) is a private equity firm that partners with management to invest in leveraged buyouts and recapitalizations of lower middle market businesses. Milestone pursues successful niche-market leaders that provide high-margin products or services. Milestone’s transactions typically provide liquidity to shareholders of privately owned businesses, facilitate the transition of ownership to key managers, and allow management to capitalize on growth opportunities, while maintaining the legacy of the founders. Milestone is currently making new platform and add-on investments through Milestone Partners III, L.P., a \$240 million fund, as well as making add-on investments through Milestone Partners II, L.P., a \$120 million fund.

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LOWER MIDDLE MARKET PRIVATE EQUITY



MILESTONE REPRESENTATIVE INVESTMENTS:

-  **Avure Technologies**  
(high-pressure presses)
-  **Black Letter Discovery**  
(litigation support services)
-  **Blaschak Coal Corp.**  
(anthracite mining and processing)
-  **CODi**  
(corporate laptop cases and accessories)
-  **Dydacomp**  
(e-commerce and catalog software)
-  **Eliason**  
(commercial double-action impact doors)
-  **Fatz Cafe**  
(casual dining restaurant chain)
-  **Global Connection**  
(prepaid wireline phone service)

-  **Good Health Natural Products**  
(natural foods and body care products)
-  **Knights Apparel**  
(licensed sports apparel)
-  **Learn It Systems**  
(supplemental education services)
-  **Mariner Finance**  
(consumer installment loans)
-  **Outlook Group**  
(printing, packaging and direct mail)
-  **Safemark Systems**  
(in-room hotel safes)
-  **Trans-Trade**  
(non-asset-based logistics)
-  **United Road Towing**  
(towing services)

MILESTONE GENERAL INVESTMENT CRITERIA:

**Company Size\*:**

- Revenue: \$15–\$150 million
- EBITDA: \$3–\$20 million

**Transaction Size\*:**

- \$15–\$150 million

**Equity Investment Size\*:**

- \$5–\$40 million (and higher with typical co-invest)

\*Add-ons may be smaller

**Sectors and Industries:**

- Generalist approach; seeking high-margin, niche-market leaders in all industries

**Geography:**

- North America (may have overseas operations)

**Key Business Characteristics:**

- Clear competitive advantages
- High profit margins
- Compelling growth opportunities

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