

## Star Mountain Platform Highlights

### Value for Investors

★ Efficient access to attractive returns in the private small / medium-sized business marketplace through customized and co-mingled solutions for institutional and high-net-worth investors.

### Value for Business Owners

★ Star Mountain operates as a unique "One-Stop-Shop Flexible Capital Solution" partner for businesses seeking strategic debt or equity growth capital and expertise to help maximize their goals.

### Value for Fund Managers

★ Unique Strategic Partner for SBIC and other lower-middle market funds to help maximize portfolio value through deal flow, underwriting insights, expertise and relationships.

## Star Mountain Adds Another Highly Experienced Small and Medium-Sized Business Direct Credit Investment Professional

New York, NY, December 2, 2015 – Star Mountain Capital, LLC ("Star Mountain"), a specialized alternative asset manager focused exclusively on the large and underserved private U.S. small / medium-sized business marketplace, is pleased to announce that David J. DiPaolo, former Senior Managing Director, General Partner and Investment Committee Member of a \$350 million lower middle-market direct credit investment firm, has joined Star Mountain as a Managing Director & Investment Committee Member. Along with a successful track record of investment performance, Mr. DiPaolo possesses a vast array of relationships, particularly with business owners and transaction referral sources, which will further enhance Star Mountain's direct origination and underwriting capabilities.

"I have known Dave for over a decade and we are excited for him to join as a full-time partner as we continue to build an innovative small and medium-sized business investment platform," commented Brett Hickey, Star Mountain's Founder & CEO. Dave stated, "Star Mountain has a built an impressive team and a truly unique platform which allows investors to access the attractive small and medium-sized business marketplace in a fee-efficient, scalable and diversified manner. Having worked with Brett and other Star Mountain partners on deals for over a decade and observed the firm's thoughtful development, I am excited to be a part of this dynamic team."



Mr. DiPaolo has over twenty years of principal investment and corporate advisory experience in the lower middle-market. Prior to joining Star Mountain, Mr. DiPaolo spent 15 years at Brooks, Houghton & Company, Inc. as a Senior Managing Director and General Partner of a series of direct investing credit funds managing over \$350 million in AUM. Mr. DiPaolo served as a member of the investment committee of the funds and also sat on the Board of Directors of several portfolio companies, including taking active operating roles when necessary.

Mr. DiPaolo also co-founded the BHC Winton Funds, a series of investment funds which allowed investors to directly participate in insurance and reinsurance underwriting through access to a pool of underwriting syndicates operating in the Lloyd's of London insurance market. Previously, Mr. DiPaolo was a professional at Janney Montgomery Scott LLC, an investment banking firm specializing in lower middle-market transactions, including M&A, sales and divestitures, leveraged buyouts and public and private securities offerings across industries. Mr. DiPaolo received a BS in Business Management from the University of Maryland and an MBA with honors in Finance from Columbia Business School.

### ABOUT STAR MOUNTAIN

Star Mountain Fund Management, LLC is a New York City-based specialized small / medium-sized business-focused alternative asset management firm with a unique strategic partnership approach to investing in private credit and private equity fund managers and investing directly into U.S. small and medium-sized businesses. Star Mountain's unique "Collaborative Ecosystem" and network of top performing fund managers allows them and their portfolio of fund managers to provide strategic "One-Stop-Shop Flexible Capital Solutions" to U.S. based businesses looking to grow or sell.



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