

LASALLE CAPITAL GROUP, L.P.

PRINCIPALS IN THE LEVERAGED ACQUISITION OF LOWER-MIDDLE MARKET COMPANIES

RECENT ACQUISITION



Chicago, IL – LaSalle Capital Group L.P. (“LaSalle Capital”) together with **Robert J. Ragusa**, are pleased to announce the acquisition of **Violet Packing Company** of Williamstown, NJ. Violet Packing Company has been privately owned and operated by the Sclafani family since 1945 and is a leading regional processor of fresh packed tomato products including: pizza and spaghetti sauces, crushed tomatoes and whole tomatoes. Violet’s products are made using only the freshest tomatoes with no added preservatives, citric acid or corn syrup providing a unique, all natural and healthy taste profile. The Company’s tomato products are also rich in lycopene which is known to provide numerous health benefits. The company sells its products under the Don Pepino, Sclafani, and Violet brand names to leading foodservice distributors, restaurants, and retailers through out the Eastern United States.

Robert Ragusa, previously Vice President of Sales & Marketing at Can Corporation of American, will become CEO of Violet Packing Company and brings substantial sales, marketing, and customer service experience in the consumer packaging industry to the company. Additionally, Chip and Lou Sclafani will remain with the company and assist in the future development of the business.

Violet Packing represents the first acquisition for LaSalle Capital’s recently closed \$100 million Fund, “We are excited to partner with Rob Ragusa and Lou & Chip Sclafani to build upon Violet’s well known reputation for producing the highest quality fresh packed tomato based products in the industry” says LaSalle Capital Group L.P., Principal, Jeff Walters. “LaSalle Capital has significant experience in the food processing industry, including the fruit and vegetable processing sector, and is committed to expanding Violet’s business organically and possibly through acquisition. I believe a significant opportunity exists to further expand the company’s highly regarded brands with a loyal and high quality customer base” said Rob Ragusa.

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- \$100 million fund
- Management buyouts and recapitalizations
- Extensive experience in the lower middle-market
- Focus on niche consumer and industrial manufacturing, distribution and service businesses

LaSalle Capital Group, L.P.

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