

## HARREN CLOSES ITS SECOND FUND WITH COMMITMENTS OF \$200 MILLION

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia, May 19, 2008 – Harren Equity Partners, a private equity firm dedicated to the lower middle market, announced today the final closing of Harren Investors II (the "Partnership") with commitments of \$200 million.

The Partnership will continue the firm's past practice of taking significant equity positions in lower middle market companies through leveraged acquisitions and recapitalization transactions with participation by management. The Partnership plans to make equity investments of \$5 million to \$40 million in transactions with enterprise values that range from \$20 million to \$200 million, focusing on niche manufacturing, value-added distribution and service companies in a variety of industries.

Several investments have already been consummated by the Partnership, including the previously announced acquisitions of Professional Directional Ltd., Keystone Drill Services, Inc. and Stockdale Mine Supply, Inc.

Thomas A. Carver, Managing Partner and Founder of Harren Equity Partners, said, "We are quite pleased with the success of our fundraising process and excited for the prospects of Harren Investors II."

Harren Equity Partners is a Charlottesville, Virginia based private investment firm dedicated to the growth and development of industry-leading companies through the creation of strong partnerships with outstanding management teams. Harren's unique approach focuses on operational excellence and insightful strategic analysis, rather than financial engineering. The principals of Harren have significant operating experience and work closely with portfolio company management teams to continue to grow companies and improve profitability. Harren focuses on investment opportunities in the lower middle market, defined as companies with \$20 million to \$150 million of annual revenue, in a broad range of industries.

For more information, please visit <u>www.harrenequity.com</u> or contact Thomas A. Carver or Lee J. Monahan at 434.245.5800.