

# Middle-Market M&A SurveyBook 2013 Survey of Key M&A Deal Terms





As a leader in middle-market M&A transactions, Seyfarth Shaw LLP is pleased to publish this edition of our Middle-Market M&A SurveyBook of Key Deal Terms (the "Survey").

This Survey summarizes selected terms in 182 publicly available private target acquisition agreements signed in 2013 with a purchase price of up to \$1 billion. For purposes of this Survey, "purchase price" means the total consideration paid by an acquirer in a transaction (but does not include contingent purchase price payments). The Survey does not include any transactions that involved the payment of any consideration other than cash.

While each transaction is unique and deal terms generally will be driven by the specific facts and circumstances underlying the transaction, **"what's market?"** is a question often faced by the parties engaged in a transaction. Understanding current trends and patterns in deal terms is a valuable tool for buyers, sellers and deal professionals evaluating and negotiating private target transactions. This Survey is intended to be a quick reference guide of current market practice with respect to key M&A deal terms and aid parties negotiating private target acquisition agreements.

#### KEY DEAL TERMS SURVEYED

- Indemnity Escrow Amount
- Indemnity Escrow Period
- Representation & Warranty
  Survival Period
- Carve Outs to General Survival Period
- Indemnity Basket Type
- Indemnity Basket Size
- Indemnity Cap Size



## Indemnity Escrow Amount

The indemnity escrow amount is the portion of the purchase price that is held in escrow to serve as a fund to satisfy indemnification claims against the seller.



- Approximately 54% of all deals surveyed provided for an indemnity escrow.
- The median indemnity escrow amount for deals surveyed which provided for indemnity escrow was approximately 8.8% of the purchase price.
- Of the deals surveyed which provided for indemnity escrow, approximately 84% had indemnity escrow amounts of 5% of the purchase price or greater.





## Indemnity Escrow Period

The indemnity escrow period is the length of time after the transaction closing date that the indemnity escrow amount is held before being released to the seller.



- The median indemnity escrow period included in deals surveyed which provided for an indemnity escrow was 15 months.
- Of the deals surveyed which provided for an indemnity escrow, approximately 88% had indemnity escrow periods from 12 to 18 months.
- In general, indemnity escrow periods were closely tied to survival periods for "general" representations and warranties.





### **Representation & Warranty Survival Period**

The survival period is the length of time after the transaction closing date during which a party may make claims for breaches of representations and warranties. For purposes of this Survey, the survival periods referred to below apply to "general" representations and warranties and do not take into account longer survival periods for certain representations and warranties that are sometimes carved out of the general survival period.



- The median survival period for deals surveyed was 15 months.
- Approximately 87% of deals surveyed had survival periods from 12 to 18 months.



### **Carve Outs to General Survival Period**

Certain specified representations and warranties may be carved out of the general survival period and survive for a longer period of time.



#### Percentage of Deals Surveyed in Which Applicable Representation Was Carved Out

#### **Other Carved Out Representations**

#### **Capitalization:**

• Approximately 70% of deals surveyed involving the purchase of equity interests carved out representations regarding capitalization from the general survival period.

#### **Title to Assets:**

- Approximately 46% of deals surveyed involving the purchase of assets carved out representations regarding title to assets from the general survival period.
- Approximately 11% of deals surveyed involving the purchase of equity interests carved out representations regarding title to assets from the general survival period.

#### SEYFARTH SHAW

## **Indemnity Basket Type**

An indemnity basket requires a party to incur a certain amount of indemnifiable losses before it can seek indemnification from the other party. There are generally two types of baskets: true deductibles and tipping or dollar-one baskets. With a true deductible, the indemnifying party is only responsible for losses exceeding the basket amount. With a tipping or dollar-one basket, the indemnifying party is responsible for <u>all</u> losses once a party's indemnifiable losses attain the basket amount.









#### **Observations**

- The median basket size included in all deals surveyed was 0.72% of the purchase price.
- The median basket size for deals surveyed having a true deductible basket was 0.8% of the purchase price.
- The median basket size for deals surveyed having a tipping basket was 0.5% of the purchase price.

#### SEYFARTH SHAW

8



The indemnity cap limits a party's maximum liability under the indemnification provisions to a stated dollar amount.



- Approximately 97% of deals surveyed had an indemnity cap.
- The median indemnity cap size included in deals surveyed was 10% of the purchase price.
- Approximately 80% of deals surveyed had an indemnity cap size of 15% of the purchase price or less.
- Indemnity caps typically only apply to breaches of "general" representations and warranties.





## **About Seyfarth's M&A Practice**

Clients want	We deliver
Market Knowledge	Over the last two years, our M&A attorneys have been engaged in over 250 M&A transactions
Attention	Unlike other large law firms, we provide senior-level attention to all transactions — big or small
Value & Innovation	Our market leading SeyfarthLean approach uses innovative technology to increase efficiency and improve communication, resulting in a meaningful reduction in overall costs and enhanced client service
Top-Tier Practice	Recognized as a leading middle-market M&A practice by <i>Legal 500</i> 2012 + 2013
Expertise	Our M&A practice is supported by a national group of specialists in areas such as finance, employee benefits, IP, labor and employment, tax, real estate, environmental and antitrust
Middle-Market Focus	Our M&A practice includes more than 60 attorneys who focus on middle- market transactions
	Financial Times Award Top 10 For the second consecutive year, leading

law firm Seyfarth has earned a spot

among the top 10 most innovative law

firms in the Financial Times (FT) U.S.

Innovative Lawyers Report 2012.

med to Top 5

SERVICE

A-Team

Seyfarth named to BTI Consulting's "Client Service A-Team," recognizing the best firms in client service via a survey of Fortune 1000 in-house counsel.



What's tangling up your legal team?







Andrew Lucano Practice Group Vice-Chair <u>alucano@seyfarth.com</u> Direct: (212) 218-6492



Don Lepore Partner <u>dlepore@seyfarth.com</u> Direct: (212) 218-5285



Ilya Bubel Associate ibubel@seyfarth.com Direct: (212) 218-3321

#### Learn more about our work at: www.seyfarth.com/Mergers-and-Acquisitions

Disclaimer: The acquisition agreement provisions that form the basis of this Survey are drafted in many different ways and do not always fit precisely into particular "data point" categories. Therefore, Seyfarth Shaw has had to make various judgment calls regarding how to categorize certain provisions and has rounded certain figures for ease of presentation. As a result, the conclusions presented in this Survey may be subject to important qualifications that are not expressly articulated in this Survey. The findings presented in this Survey do not necessarily reflect the views of Seyfarth Shaw. In addition, while Seyfarth Shaw gathers its data from sources it considers reliable, it does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information provided within this Survey. Seyfarth Shaw makes no representations or warranties, expressed or implied, regarding the accuracy of this material.

Attorney Advertising. This is a general communication from Seyfarth Shaw LLP and should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion with respect to any specific facts or circumstances. The contents are intended for general information purposes only, and you are urged to consult a lawyer concerning your own situation and any specific legal questions you may have. Copyright © 2014 Seyfarth Shaw LLP. All rights reserved. No reproductions.

