

Press Release

Stellus Capital Management, LLC Provides First Lien and Equity Financing in Support of Summit Park's Acquisition of Fast Growing Trees, LLC.

Houston – TX, February 12, 2018 - Stellus Capital Management, LLC (“Stellus”) announced today that its affiliates provided a senior credit facility and equity co-investment in support of Summit Park's acquisition of Fast Growing Trees, LLC (“FGT”).

Based in Fort Mill, South Carolina, FGT offers consumers a broad variety of high-quality trees and shrubs through its websites fast-growing-trees.com and brighterblooms.com. The Company provides customers with a best-in-class e-commerce experience and access to over 900 products that are available for on-demand delivery, typically within two days of placing an order. FGT sources its products from a geographically diverse network of trusted suppliers and has built a reputation for offering high quality products and superior customer service.

Michael York, a Principal of Summit Park, said, “We are excited to partner with the Stellus team on another transaction. We appreciated the flexibility of Stellus' unitranche proposal and an efficient deal execution. We look towards continuing to work with the FGT management team to build upon the tremendous historical success of the company. We believe FGT is poised to capitalize on its leading position within an attractive and growing segment of the e-commerce market.”

Gavin Roseman, Managing Director at Stellus added, “We believe FGT is well positioned to capture additional share in this growing market due to their unrivaled sourcing and search engine optimization capabilities. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with Summit Park on this transaction and build upon our longstanding relationship.”

About Stellus

Stellus Capital is a leading middle market private investment firm with approximately \$1.3 billion of assets under management (as of December 31, 2017) across its two investment platforms: private credit and energy private equity. The private credit platform focuses on originating direct loans to middle market companies. The energy private equity platform focuses on providing flexible equity capital to small and middle market energy companies. Each platform is led by a dedicated investment team investing out of strategy-specific funds.

Collectively, the Stellus Capital team has invested over \$5.0 billion in the middle market over the last 10+ years. Stellus has offices in Houston, TX, Charlotte, NC and the Washington D.C. area. For additional information, please visit us at www.stelluscapital.com.

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