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**JD FORD & COMPANY WINS M&A ADVISOR AWARD FOR
SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Denver, CO, January 15, 2010—The M&A Advisor, a leading information publisher for middle-market mergers and acquisitions and finance professionals, announced the 2009 winners for the 8th Annual Middle-Market M&A Awards and selected JD Ford & Company as winner in the category for Information Technology Deal of the Year under \$100 million. This award was based on JD Ford’s role in arranging the acquisition of Paragon Solutions Group, Inc., by Forsythe Solutions Group, Inc. The Middle-Market M&A Awards recognizes deal-teams and deal-makers whose successful transactions set the standard for the industry. 220 finalists representing 66 firms were chosen in 35 categories.

“It is an honor to recognize the achievements and accomplishments of JD Ford & Company,” said Roger Aguinaldo, CEO and Publisher of the M&A Advisor. “They have set an industry standard for consistently arranging influential deals.”

“JD Ford & Company is honored to receive this award and to have had the pleasure of representing Paragon Solutions Group, Inc.,” said Joe Durnford, CEO of JD Ford & Company. He added, “it was a pleasure to represent Haydn Hirstine, founder and CEO of Paragon Solutions Group, and help him realize his financial and personal goals. JD Ford takes great pride in helping business owners, transition from business ownership and management to ownership of wealth and management of lifestyle.”

JD Ford & Company is a specialized Investment Bank that helps business owners increase business value, obtain growth capital, gain personal liquidity, and create lasting family legacy. JD Ford works in a variety of industries including consumer products, specialty retail, information technology, building products, and specialized services. JD Ford & Company leverages its extensive experience, processes, vast network of connections and unique insight to guide business owners through a variety of transitional events. For more information please visit www.jdford.com.

The M&A Advisor’s 8th Annual Awards Gala honors excellence in deal-making for transactions between \$10 million and \$1 billion in deal-value. Since 1998, The M&A Advisor has been connecting professionals in the mergers and acquisitions, distressed investing and related financial services industries through its timely market data, conferences, newsletters, online community and by recognizing the best deal makers in the country.

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