

The Transaction:

Southern Multifoods, LLC and its affiliated entities ("SMI"), has successfully refinanced its existing debt and obtained a development line of credit and revolving line of credit. SMI is a Jacksonville, Texas based Taco Bell franchisee owned and operated by long-time QSR industry veterans Drew Durrett, CEO, Robert Cudd, CFO and Michael Stansberry, General Counsel. The loans were used to refinance the company's existing debt, provide capital for remodels, and finance the development of new restaurants. Wells Fargo Bank acted as the Agent Bank, M&T Bank served as Joint Lead Arranger, and The Northern Trust Company rounded out the bank group. SMI currently operates 115 restaurants and owns the real estate underlying 105 of the locations. Auspex Capital acted as the Financial Advisor to SMI for the transaction.

Drew Durrett had this to say about his recent experience working with the Auspex Capital team: "My dad used Auspex Capital about 20 years ago to do a debt placement, but since then we've done all of our finance work in-house. We went to market in late 2023 to refinance our existing credit facility, but realized we needed the help of Chris and Naveen at Auspex. After taking a deep dive into our financial statements and performing a thorough review of our existing credit facility, Auspex reported back to us that they were highly confident that they could meet our pricing expectations and obtain more favorable terms in our loan documents. Not only were they able to deliver on our pricing expectations, but they were also able to get us improved terms on virtually all of the items they had identified in our loan documents. Auspex did a fantastic job and I couldn't be more pleased! I highly recommend the Auspex team."

The Advisor:

Auspex Capital is a boutique investment banking and financial advisory firm specializing in the restaurant industry. For more information or for a no-cost evaluation of your business, please call Chris Kelleher at 562-424-2455 or email at ckelleher@auspexcapital.com.

