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**PLANTAGENET CAPITAL NAMES GIAN-CARLO LAGUZZA AS
MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**Focus on Private Equity Transactions,
Roll-ups For Portfolio Companies**

San Francisco, July 26, 1999 – Plantagenet Capital Management LLC today announced that it has named Gian-Carlo Laguzza, 34, as Managing Director. His duties include managing private equity and buyout transactions for the firm as well as the development and implementation of roll-up strategies for certain portfolio companies.

Mr. Laguzza comes to Plantagenet, which specializes in financial restructurings and industry consolidations, with broad expertise in finance, corporate law, taxation and leasing transactions.

C. Derek Anderson, Senior Managing Partner of Plantagenet, said, “Gian-Carlo combines a focus on the financial issues facing small high-growth companies with the demonstrated ability to create financing solutions that meet their needs. At the same time, his experience in acquisitions, including cross-border transactions, brings our portfolio companies a valuable advisor in creating growth platforms.”

As an Assistant Vice President at GE Capital in San Francisco, Mr. Laguzza directed the investment analysis of companies seeking equity or

subordinated debt capital. His industry expertise includes retail, electronics, technology, manufacturing, transportation and entertainment companies.

Prior to working at GE Capital, he was an Associate at the law firm of Haight Gardner Holland & Knight in New York, where he advised foreign clients on cross-border transactions. While at Haight Gardner, he negotiated numerous complex cross-border leveraged lease transactions to finance the acquisition of commercial aircraft and ships. Clients included GE Capital, Air Canada and Mobil Oil.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Laguzza was a consultant to financial institutions at Deloitte & Touche for corporate and international tax planning issues. Clients included Merrill Lynch, Daiwa Bank and Niagara Mohawk Power. At Deloitte & Touche, he was also regularly involved in negotiations of tax audit assessments with the IRS.

Prior professional experience came as a portfolio manager at The Bank of New York, where he managed investments for a \$200 million portfolio of approximately 220 clients.

Mr. Laguzza holds a Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University, a JD from Fordham Law School, and an MBA and Masters in Taxation from Fordham Graduate Business School.

Plantagenet Capital Management LLC, based in San Francisco, is a private equity firm focused on strategic buyouts and turnaround situations.

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