

Ascendant Partners Acts as Exclusive Advisor in Sale of Corn Wet Mill and Ethanol Plant

For Immediate Release

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April 1, 2011 (Greenwood Village, CO) – Tate & Lyle, a global food and industrial ingredients company, concluded the sale of its corn wet mill and ethanol production facility located in Fort Dodge, Iowa, to Cargill, Incorporated. Terms of the sale were not released.

The ethanol plant was only partially completed with construction on the facility halted in March, 2009. Privately held Cargill already operates similar bio-product facilities in Blair, Nebraska, and Eddyville, Iowa, and sees a strong strategic fit with its business. Alan Willits, president of Cargill Corn Wet Milling in North America stated, “When completed, Fort Dodge will be a world class biorefinery campus that will produce ethanol and other bio-based products.”

Ascendant Financial Partners acted as the exclusive M&A and financial advisor to Tate & Lyle. Ascendant is an investment banking group dedicated to servicing agribusiness, food and renewable energy companies.

“The sale of the Fort Dodge wet mill assets to Cargill represents an excellent outcome for both buyer and seller. As a result of the sale both companies will be better positioned to focus on their respective strategic priorities,” said Kirk Martin, a partner with Ascendant.

Ascendant Financial Partners is the leading provider of professional capital solutions dedicated to serving clients in the food, agribusiness, and renewable energy industries. Ascendant is a value-based organization built on a foundation of trust, integrity, accountability and client success. Ascendant Financial Partners is a registered FINRA broker/dealer.