
Tonka Bay Equity Partners acquires and invests in highly engineered manufacturing, value-added distribution and business services companies with EBITDA greater than \$2 million. We make investments in connection with management buyouts, acquisitions, recapitalizations, and growth/expansion. We manage two private equity funds with combined capital of \$200 million. Our limited partners include major financial institutions and high net worth individuals.

Our team includes former senior managers of successful companies with both investing and operating backgrounds who know how to build value. We work closely with the management of portfolio companies providing board-level operating and strategic assistance. We seek to invest in companies poised for growth, leveraging our capital and operating experience to help companies unlock their potential.

Industries

- Highly engineered manufacturing
- Value-added distribution
- Business Services

Criteria

- EBITDA > \$2.0 million
- Experienced management team
- Poised for growth



Cary Musech
Managing Principal

Prior to founding Tonka Bay, Musech was the CFO of Wright Products, a leading manufacturer of builder's hardware. Musech joined Wright Products in connection with a management buyout and later participated in the sale of the company to a strategic buyer. Previously, he was vice president in the leveraged and structured finance groups of U.S. Bank and Wells Fargo, where he specialized in financing buyouts and acquisitions. He began his career at Ernst & Young and is a CPA.



Peter Kooman
Managing Principal

Before co-founding Tonka Bay in 1998, Kooman was the chief direct investment officer of Waycrosse, the family financial services and management company for the Cargill/MacMillan families. At Waycrosse, he managed a portfolio of middle market growth companies. Previously, he was a vice president of FBS Merchant Bank where he specialized in structuring and financing management buyouts and acquisitions. He began his career at Fleet Bank.



Steve Soderling
Principal

Soderling joined Tonka Bay in 2005, after spending seven years on the buyout team of Norwest Equity Partners. At Norwest, he was involved in originating and closing management buyout and growth equity investments. He began his career with the Arthur Andersen economic and financial consulting group in the Chicago and Minneapolis offices.



Molly Simmons
Principal

Simmons joined Tonka Bay in 2010, after spending nine years with Gemini Investors, where she was involved in originating, closing, and managing buyout, recapitalization, and growth equity investments. Previously, she was a strategic management consultant with Bain & Company and worked in the strategy and M&A group at British Petroleum.