## BREAKING DOWN THE MARKET

In Q4 2023, 151 deals including mezzanine debt closed, a 76\% increase from the 86 deals closed in Q3 2023. Mezzanine activity during 2023 increased approximately $22 \%$ YoY from 371 deals to 454 deals. Despite this increase, private equity deal volume decreased $14 \%$ YoY from 6,022 deals in 2022, to 5,164 deals in 2023. Out of the 151 mezzanine deals that closed in Q4 2023, 59 deals were buyouts, 60 were minority financings, 31 were sponsor-backed add-ons, and 1 was a recapitalization. The most common industries in total M\&A activity for the quarter were Technology, Industrials, Consumer, and Business Services, respectively.

*closed mezzanine investments of $\$ 3 \mathrm{MM}$ and greater with the target located in the U.S. and Canada. Includes unitrance and senior secured financings with pricing or other features similar to mezzanine.

## NOTABLE MEZZANINE TRANSACTIONS

In March, PNC Mezzanine invested subordinated debt and equity to support CW Industrial Partners' acquisition of Mantaline, a manufacturer of extruded elastomeric products such as seals, protectors, and insulation. Angle Advisors and Frantz Ward provided sell-side financial advisory and legal advisory services, respectively.

In February, NorthCoast Mezzanine invested subordinated debt and equity to support Kinzie Capital Partners' acquisition of Arctic Industries, a manufacturer and distributor of engineered walk-in coolers, freezers, and insulating enclosures. Brown Gibbons Lang \& Co. provided sell-side financial advisory services, and Jones Day provided buy-side legal advisory services on the deal.

In January, Maysteel Industries, a portfolio company of Littlejohn Capital, acquired Star Precision Manufacturing, a provider of sheet metal fabrication, precision machining and complete finishing services. Patriot Capital invested subordinated debt in support of the acquisition, and Merit Investment Bank served as the seller's financial advisor.

## NOTABLE MEZZANINE TRANSACTIONS (CONT.)

Concentric Investment Partners invested subordinated debt and equity to support Ashlar Capital's acquisition of CarePartners Pharmacy, a provider of home and ambulatory infusion services, in January.

Aldine Capital Partners invested subordinated debt and equity in support of Lometa Capital Partners' acquisition of Preferred Mortgage Services, a provider of mortgage servicing solutions, in March. Keefe, Bruyette \& Woods and Squire Patton Boggs provided sell-side financial advisory and legal advisory services, respectively. Byline Bank invested senior debt in support of the acquisition, and Ice Miller provided buy-side legal advisory services.

Merit Capital Partners invested subordinated debt and equity to support Fulton Capital's acquisition of AFX, a distributor of lighting fixtures, in January.

Groome Industrial Service Group, a portfolio company of Argosy Private Equity, acquired W-S Cos., an industrial and mechanical services company, in March. Seacoast Capital and Ironwood Capital provided a subordinated debt and an equity co-investment to support the acquisition. Bridgepoint Merchant Banking served as the seller's financial advisor.

In January, Yukon Partners and Audax Group invested mezzanine debt to support Sentinel Capital Partners' acquisition of Market Performance Group, an omnichannel commerce agency serving consumer packaged goods companies. Canaccord Genuity provided sell-side financial advisory services, and Kirkland \& Ellis and DLA Piper provided sell-side legal advisory services. Churchill Asset Management invested senior debt in support of the acquisition, and Dorsey \& Whitney provided buy-side legal advisory services.

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