

NORTH AMERICA CONSUMER GOODS

Golub Provides \$146 Million in Debt to Support Cafe Rio Deal

Golub Capital provided \$146 million in debt financing to support the acquisition of fast-casual Mexican restaurant chain Cafe Rio Inc. by Freeman Spogli & Co.

The financing comes from Golub's midmarket lending group, which provides financing for midmarket, private equity-backed transactions with hold positions of up to \$400 million and arranges credit facilities of up to \$750 million, according to a press release.

Freeman Spogli recently closed a deal to acquire the chain from fellow private-equity firm KarpReilly. Terms of the transaction weren't disclosed.

The company generates more than \$20 million of trailing

12-months earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, people familiar with the matter told WSJ Pro Private Equity in August, when the deal received early antitrust clearance from the U.S. government.

Cafe Rio operates in 11 states with more than 100 Mexican restaurants total. Founded in 1997, the company serves dishes inspired by cooking in northern Mexico, southern Texas and New Mexico.

Golub, of Chicago, manages more than \$20 billion of assets through various credit investment vehicles, including a private-credit fund platform, business development companies and separate accounts.