

Chrysalis To Buy Book-Cover Maker Out Of Bankruptcy

BY PATRICK FITZGERALD
5/23/2007

Book-cover manufacturer ICG/Holliston has filed for Chapter 11 protection in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Wilmington, Del.

The nation's oldest maker of cloth covers for the book industry said in Monday's filing that it intends to sell its business to an affiliate of Philadelphia buyout firm Chrysalis Capital Partners LP, subject to higher bids at a court-monitored auction.

The privately held company, based in Churchill, Tenn., listed assets of \$28 million and debts of \$27.5 million.

Earlier this month, Chrysalis bought ICG/Holliston's debt previously held by Jackson National Life Insurance Co., a lender to the company. ICG/Holliston owes Chrysalis about \$21.5 million from the loan, according to court papers.

ICG/Holliston was formed by the merger of book-cover producers Holliston, founded in 1893, and Chicago-based ICG, which went into business four years later.

First Atlantic Capital purchased ICG in 1995 for \$42.5 million, with the help of Jackson National Life Insurance. In 1998 ICG bought Holliston. First Atlantic Capital merged ICG into Holliston in 2006 to create the current company.

ICG/Holliston will continue operating during its bankruptcy case. Chrysalis, through its Agarista ICG Lending affiliate, is providing ICG/Holliston with a \$2 million bankruptcy loan to fund the company's business pending a sale.

Irving R. Boody, owed \$715,479, is the company's largest unsecured creditor.

Young, Conaway, Stargatt & Taylor will handle the company's bankruptcy case.

The case number is 07-10687. Judge Mary F. Walrath has been assigned the case.