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## **In brief: WealthTrust bought by New York firm**

WealthTrust Inc., a Nashville-based subsidiary of Morgan Keegan & Co. and its parent Regions Financial Corp., has been acquired and recapitalized by Circle Peak Capital of New York.

Private equity investment firm Circle Peak said it partnered in the transaction with WealthTrust's management, led by Chief Executive M. Rush "Rusty" Benton, and junior capital provider Falcon Investment Advisors LLC. Benton said the deal was in the works before Birmingham, Ala.-based Regions' recent acquisition of AmSouth Bancorp. Through the recapitalization, Circle Peak bought out Morgan Keegan's interest in Wealth Trust and is committing additional capital for growth including to acquire other investment advisory firms, said R. Adam Smith, Circle Peak's managing partner.

WealthTrust is a national holding company for firms that advise high-net-worth families, individuals and institutions on managing money.

— GETAHN WARD