



Headquarters:  
7900 Westpark Drive  
Suite A320  
McLean, VA 22102

703.827.0200 main  
703.827.0175 fax  
[www.mcleanllc.com](http://www.mcleanllc.com)

Contact: Katie Merchant, Communications Manager      **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Phone: (703) 752-9008  
E-mail: [kmerchant@mcleanllc.com](mailto:kmerchant@mcleanllc.com)

**THE MCLEAN GROUP ADVISES THE AARON GROUP ON SALE**  
**The Aaron Group is sold to Champion Exposition Services**

MCLEAN, VA (January, 2002) - The McLean Group LLC is pleased to announce the New Year's Eve sale of its client, The Aaron Group, to Champion Exposition Services. The Aaron Group is a full-service trade-show exposition firm located in Washington, DC.

The McLean Group assisted the management of The Aaron Group in identifying and contacting prospective acquirers, analyzing valuations and negotiating the terms of the sale. Toby Aaron, President and CEO of The Aaron Group, considered several potential buyers before determining that Champion would provide the best fit and greatest potential for his firm.

Mr. Aaron stated, "Above and beyond the 'hard,' technical M&A support, what I most appreciated about The McLean Group bankers was their advice in the 'soft,' more subjective realms. They were able to assure, advise and make predictions based on their many years of M&A experience. There are probably a good number of investment banks out there that can handle the technicalities of an M&A deal, but I doubt there are more than just a few that provide the level of care and concern I enjoyed while working with The McLean Group."

Founded by Mr. Aaron in 1984, The Aaron Group is unique among exposition service contractors. While large enough to manage hundreds of nationwide meetings, events and trade shows annually, this service-minded company remained small enough to care passionately about providing exceptional service to its clients. Its merger with Champion will allow The Aaron Group to continue its excellent record of client service.

**About The McLean Group**

The McLean Group, LLC, is a national, middle market investment bank headquartered in McLean, VA providing merger and acquisition (M&A), capital formation, market intelligence, business valuation, litigation support and exit planning services. The firm serves domestic and international clients with a broad resume of successfully consummated financial transactions. Securities transactions are cleared through The McLean Group's affiliate, McLean Securities, LLC, a FINRA Registered Broker Dealer and Member FINRA/SIPC. For more information, visit [www.mcleanllc.com](http://www.mcleanllc.com).

If you would like more information about this transaction, please contact Katie Merchant at (703) 752-9008 or e-mail Katie at [kmerchant@mcleanllc.com](mailto:kmerchant@mcleanllc.com).