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San Francisco Business Times - February 11, 2008

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Friday, February 8, 2008

## S.F. investment company hires experience from Denver VC firm

San Francisco Business Times - by [George Khalaf](#)

In the private equity investment industry, it pays to have a niche. [Saints Capital](#), a San Francisco firm focused on secondary investments in portfolios of venture and private equity-backed companies, recently hired Robert Keppler as its chief financial officer.

At Saints Capital, Keppler's primary responsibility will be managing the financial affairs of various partnerships within its growing portfolio. This role includes monitoring accounting, cash positions, tax implications, proceeds distribution and all correspondence with the firm's limited partners. Keppler will also oversee the firm's administrative staff in addition to its daily operations.

Though Saints Capital has solidified its position as one of the more active secondary direct acquirers of private equity and venture capital positions on a global scale, Keppler sees even more potential ahead.

"I'm excited about the business model that Saints Capital is operating under. Saints has experienced tremendous growth since inception and has the opportunity to continue to grow. I will make sure we are properly staffed and have the resources in place to execute our investment strategy going forward," he said.

Before joining Saints, Keppler was the CFO for 10 years at [Centennial Ventures](#) of Denver.

"Overall the responsibilities are very similar. The biggest difference is the velocity of activity. At Saints, it's much more rapid than the traditional VC -- very invigorating and challenging," he said.

Prior to his tenure at Centennial Ventures, Keppler was a vice president, controller and treasurer with [Total Petroleum](#) of Denver for 18 years.

After Total Petroleum was acquired by the [Ultramar Diamond Shamrock Corp.](#) in 1997, Keppler made the leap into venture capital and found his niche.

"To some degree, I fell into it," he said.

Tapping his experience managing oil and gas partnerships at Total Petroleum, the Detroit native made a smooth transition into private equity, which operates almost exclusively through partnerships.

An avid road cyclist who studied accounting and business at Capital University in Ohio, Keppler now lives in San Francisco. He is married, has three children and awaits his family who will move from Colorado to join him in the city after the end of the school year.

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