



Arena Investors Receives HFM Performance Award for Differentiated Results in the Recent Market Environment

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Toronto, Canada – October 26, 2022 – The Westaim Corporation (“**Westaim**” or the “**Company**”) (TSXV: WED) is pleased to announce that Arena Investors, LP (“**Arena Investors**” or the “**Firm**”), was awarded the Credit – Newcomer Performance Award at the HFM US Performance Awards 2022 held in New York on October 18, 2022. Now in their 16th year, the HFM awards celebrate strategies that have demonstrated differentiated performance and management over the last 12 months.

While all of Arena Investors’ strategies experienced positive net performance over the June 2021-June 2022 period that was being assessed, HFM recognized the Arena fund that had the highest relative performance among the Arena vehicles, putting it officially in the “newcomer” category given that fund was launched in 2020.

Daniel Zwirn, CEO and CIO of Arena Investors noted, “As we seek to minimize exposure to the recessionary environment, we avoided investing in anything that was the beneficiary of historically low interest rates or predicated on those rates staying low and/or markets continuing to move higher. As such, rising rates and the choppy market environment in 2022 have provided us new and even larger opportunities to pursue as the markets get more volatile. Our opportunistic approach benefits our investors, both in the consistent and uncorrelated returns we have generated, but also looking ahead. We thank HFM for their recognition of our results.”

Now in its eighth year of operations, this award marks the ninth industry award in the past four years that recognizes the Firm’s differentiated performance results.

About Westaim

Westaim is a Canadian investment company specializing in providing long-term capital to businesses operating primarily within the global financial services industry. The Company invests, directly and indirectly, through acquisitions, joint ventures and other arrangements, with the objective of providing its shareholders with capital appreciation and real wealth preservation. Westaim’s strategy is to pursue investment opportunities with a focus towards the financial services industry and grow shareholder value over the long term. Westaim’s investments include significant interests in Skyward Specialty, Arena Investors and Arena FINCOs. Skyward Specialty, the HIIG Partnership, Arena FINCOs and Arena Investors are defined in the notes to Westaim’s audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 and the MD&A. Westaim’s common shares are listed on the TSX Venture Exchange under the trading symbol “WED”.

About Arena Investors

Arena Investors is an institutional asset manager founded in partnership with Westaim. With \$3.5 billion of invested and committed assets under management as of June 30, 2022, and a team of over 100 employees in offices globally, Arena Investors provides creative solutions for those seeking capital in special situations. The Firm brings individuals with decades of experience, a track record of comfort with complexity, the ability to deliver within time constraints, and the flexibility to engage in transactions that cannot be addressed by banks and other conventional financial institutions. See www.arenaco.com for more information.

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Cautionary Note and Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains certain forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws ("forward-looking statements"), including with respect to minimizing exposure to the recessionary environment and market volatility. All statements other than statements of present or historical fact are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are often, but not always, identified by the use of words such as "anticipate", "achieve", "could", "believe", "plan", "intend", "objective", "continuous", "ongoing", "estimate", "outlook", "expect", "project" and similar words, including negatives thereof, suggesting future outcomes or that certain events or conditions "may" or "will" occur. These statements are only predictions.

Forward-looking statements are based on the opinions and estimates of management of the Company at the date the statements are made based on information then available to the Company. Various factors and assumptions are applied in drawing conclusions or making the forecasts or projections set out in forward-looking statements including past practice of the Company. Forward-looking statements are subject to and involve a number of known and unknown, variables, risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, which may cause the Company's actual performance and results to differ materially from any projections of future performance or results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors, among other things, those related to the Company's business objectives.

No assurance can be given that the expectations reflected in forward-looking statements will prove to be correct. Although the forward-looking statements contained in this news release are based upon what management of the Company believes, or believed at the time, to be reasonable assumptions, the Company cannot assure shareholders that actual results will be consistent with such forward-looking statements, as there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. Readers should not place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements and information contained in this news release. Additional information regarding risks and uncertainties relating to the Company's business are contained under the heading "Risk Factors" in the AIF filed on the Company's profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. The Company does not assume any obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be expressly required by applicable laws.

The information provided herein does not constitute an offer or solicitation regarding any investment products or services offered by Arena Investors. The fund that received the award is closed to new investment. No person in any jurisdiction may treat this document as a solicitation or offer of any advisory product or service. Past performance is not indicative of future results, which may vary.

Performance results referred to in this release include Arena funds separately managed accounts and co-investment vehicles managed by Arena Investors.

Awards received can be viewed at www.arenaco.com/recognition/. Awards are based on investment returns as provided by Arena Investors, and on other factors that may include investment discipline and selection, portfolio management, stability of investment team, investor relations and/or back-office infrastructure. Awards may be conferred by a panel of industry executives or through a more general voting process. For any award's selection criteria, see the corresponding firm's website. Nominations for awards ceremonies require Arena Investors to compensate the award provider to sponsor the event.

Neither the TSXV nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.