

GFI Group Inc.
Form DFAN14A
January 15, 2015

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
Preliminary Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by the Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement.
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material under § 240.14a-12

GFI Group Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

BGC Partners, Inc.

BGC Partners, L.P.

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- x No fee required.
- .. Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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 - (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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**BGC ANNOUNCES CONTINGENT INCREASE OF ALL-CASH TENDER OFFER TO
ACQUIRE GFI GROUP TO \$5.85 PER SHARE AND IMMEDIATE NON-
CONTINGENT INCREASE TO \$5.75 PER SHARE**

Contingent Increase Depends Upon Determination of Superiority

by GFI Special Committee and Board

*Urges GFI Shareholders to Vote AGAINST the Inferior CME/GFI Management Transaction
and Tender Their Shares to BGC*

NEW YORK, NY January 15, 2015 BGC Partners, Inc. (NASDAQ: BGCP) (BGC Partners, the Company, or BGC) a leading global brokerage company primarily servicing the financial and real estate markets, today announced that it has delivered an executed agreement to GFI Group Inc. (NYSE: GFIG) (GFI Group or GFI) that, if countersigned by GFI, provides that BGC would increase its fully financed, all-cash tender offer to acquire all of the outstanding shares of GFI to \$5.85 per share.

In addition, the company announced that it has made an immediate and non-contingent increase to its all-cash tender offer price to \$5.75 and extended the expiration date for the tender offer. If a material change to the tender offer is made, the relevant rules require the Company to extend the expiration date of the tender offer to ensure that there is sufficient time between the change and the expiration of the tender offer. The tender offer is now scheduled to expire at 5:00 pm New York City time on January 29, 2015, unless extended. The offer was previously scheduled to expire at 5:00 pm New York City time, on January 27, 2015. BGC has given the GFI special committee and board until noon on Monday, January 19, 2015, to commence the match period under GFI's merger agreement with CME Group Inc. (NASDAQ: CME) (CME) in order to accept the \$5.85 per share price.

BGC's proposed revision to its cash offer of \$5.85 per share represents a premium of \$0.25, or approximately 4.5%, to the \$5.60 per share stock and cash consideration offered by the CME/GFI Management transaction and a premium of more than 88% to the price of GFI shares on July 29, 2014, the last day prior to the announcement of the original CME/GFI Management transaction. Prior to its proposed revision, BGC's contingent tender offer price was \$5.60 per share.

Howard Lutnick, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BGC, said: Both our proposed revised offer and the immediate increase to our tender offer are clearly superior to the current transaction in place between CME and GFI Management. It is up to the GFI special committee and board to act immediately in the best interest of all GFI shareholders and exercise their fiduciary duties by determining that our offer is superior to the proposed CME-GFI Management transaction.

Once again we have demonstrated our commitment to completing this transaction and we urge GFI shareholders to support our actions. Throughout this process, BGC's involvement has been the only reason GFI shareholders have been offered significantly greater value for their investment. The fact that GFI Management has increased its price by \$1.05 per share only in response to our offers demonstrates how severely the original agreement with CME drastically undervalued GFI for the sole benefit of GFI Management.

Mr. Lutnick concluded: In addition, we continue to remind GFI shareholders to vote against the proposed \$5.60 CME-GFI Management transaction at the January 27, 2015 special meeting of shareholders and also urge them to tender their shares into our clearly superior offer. We are prepared to move quickly to complete our fully-financed tender offer and deliver the value to which GFI shareholders are entitled.

A copy of the tender offer agreement will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). As previously announced, BGC has also filed a preliminary proxy statement with a GOLD proxy card with the SEC in order to solicit votes against the inferior CME transaction at the January 27, 2015 GFI special meeting. GFI shareholders can vote against this transaction by returning the GOLD proxy card from BGC or by voting against using the materials provided by GFI.

As of 5:00 PM on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, approximately 14.0 million shares were tendered pursuant to the offer. The 14.0 million tendered shares, together with the 17.1 million shares of GFI common stock already owned by BGC, represent approximately 24.4% of GFI's outstanding shares.

Innisfree M&A Incorporated is the Information Agent for the tender offer and any questions or requests for the Offer to Purchase and related materials with respect to the tender offer may be directed to them, toll-free at (888) 750-5884.

BGC's financial advisor and dealer manager for the tender offer is Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. and its legal advisor is Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.

About BGC Partners, Inc.

BGC Partners is a leading global brokerage company servicing the financial and real estate markets. Products include fixed income securities, interest rate swaps, foreign exchange, equities, equity derivatives, credit derivatives, commercial real estate, commodities, futures, and structured products. BGC also provides a wide range of services, including trade execution, broker-dealer services, clearing, processing, information, and other back-office services to a broad range of financial and non-financial institutions. Through its BGC Trader and BGC Market Data brands, BGC offers financial technology solutions, market data, and analytics related to numerous financial instruments and markets. Through the Newmark Grubb Knight Frank brand, BGC offers a wide range of commercial real estate services including leasing and corporate advisory, investment sales and financial services, consulting, project and development management, and property and facilities management. BGC's customers include many of the world's largest banks, broker-dealers, investment banks, trading firms, hedge funds, governments, corporations, property owners, real estate developers, and investment firms. BGC's common stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker symbol (NASDAQ: BGCP). BGC also has an outstanding bond issuance of Senior Notes due June 15, 2042, which trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol (NYSE: BGCA). BGC Partners is led by Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Howard W. Lutnick. For more information, please visit <http://www.bgcpartners.com>.

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Important Additional Information

This communication is provided for informational purposes only and is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell any shares of the common stock of GFI Group Inc. (GFI) or any other securities. BGC Partners, Inc. and its subsidiary BGC Partners, L.P. have commenced a tender offer for all outstanding shares of common stock of GFI and have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) a tender offer statement on Schedule TO (including an Offer to Purchase, a Letter of Transmittal and related documents). These documents, as they may be amended from time to time, contain important information, including the terms and conditions of the tender offer, and shareholders of GFI are advised to carefully read these documents before making any decision with respect to the tender offer.

BGC has filed a preliminary proxy statement and relevant documents in connection with the special meeting of the stockholders of GFI at which the GFI stockholders will consider certain proposals regarding the potential acquisition of GFI by CME Group Inc. (the Special Meeting Proposals). BGC and its directors and executive officers and other members of its management and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from GFI 's stockholders in connection with the Special Meeting Proposals. **STOCKHOLDERS OF GFI GROUP ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.** Investors and security holders may obtain a free copy of the proxy statement (when available) and other documents filed with respect to the tender offer at the SEC 's website at www.sec.gov. These materials are also available to GFI Group security holders at no expense to them at <http://ir.bgcpartners.com> or by calling BGC Partners information agent, Innisfree M&A Incorporated, toll-free at (888) 750-5884.

Discussion of Forward-Looking Statements by BGC Partners

Statements in this document regarding BGC Partners ' business that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Except as required by law, BGC undertakes no obligation to release any revisions to any forward-looking statements. For a discussion of additional risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see BGC 's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including, but not limited to, the risk factors set forth in the Company 's public filings, including BGC 's most recent Form 10-K and any updates to such risk factors contained in subsequent Form 10-Q or Form 8-K filings.

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