April 28, 2012, New York: The M&A ATLAS AWARDS GLOBAL MAJOR MARKETS honored the best deals, deal teams and firms at the annual winners circle gala and dinner celebration held on the evening of April 26th at the New York Stock Exchange, New York.

Mr. John R. Merrell, Senior Vice President, Global Corporate Client Group at the New York Stock Exchange Euronext welcomed the guests during the gala reception held on the exchange floor and delivered remarks about the role played by the Exchange in today's fast paced, inter-connected global market place.

General Electric Company spin-off of NBC Universal to joint entity majority owned and managed by Comcast Corporation won the Corporate Deal of the Year award for mega deal value over 10 billion. Announced in 2009, the deal cleared a many regulatory approvals and closed in 2011. Employing a novel structure, the deal has transformed Comcast's offerings and given GE the capital to pursue growth in its other business units.

Peabody Energy Corporation acquisition of Macarthur Coal won two Deal of the Year honors; a testament to Peabody's corporate development strategy, leadership, resourcefulness and resiliency. Pursuing its target willfully for the second time in 14 months meant being soundly prepared to overcome the Chinese might by teaming up with ArcelorMittal, a meaningful stakeholder in Macarthur.

INTER RAO UES’ vision to become a top player in the global energy market is demonstrated by its bold development initiative that has involved over thirty investments and acquisitions. Winner of two Deal of the Year honors for its acquisitions of Third Generating Company (OGK-3) from Norilsk Nickel, Federal Grid of Unified Energy System, the INTER RAO team will be busy making deals over the next several years.

Deals in the global healthcare industries were plentiful. Top award winning transactions this year included Sanofi-aventis’ perfectly timed purchase of Genzyme, Teva’s white knight acquisition of Cephalon, DENTSPLY crave-out purchase of Astra Tech AB, Nycomed sale by investor group to Takeda, along with private equity transactions including consortium led by Apax Partners purchase of Kinetic Concepts and Blackstone Private Equity acquisition of Emdeon Inc.

“Once again, we are delighted to continue the tradition of excellence by honoring top achievers from the global M&A deal communities. Winners epitomize the hard work and expertise it takes to follow-through a transaction especially in a year that was characterized by financial market uncertainties. We congratulate and thank all the winners for celebrating their achievements with us and wish them continued success.” Shanta Kumari, managing partner and CEO, Global M&A Network.

GOLD STANDARD of PERFORMANCE: The annual M&A ATLAS AWARDS, GLOBAL MAJOR MARKETS is the only industry program to exclusively honor best deals, star deal teams, and top performing firms for closed transactions valued above a billion USD from all corners of the globe.

TRADITION of EXCELLENCE:

Over the last five years, the M&A ATLAS AWARDS winners are selected purely on identifiable deal performance metrics across five broad criteria: (1) deal rationale/complexity/simplicity/finance; (2) sector/geography/markets; (3) deal style/legal/jurisdiction; (d) leadership/team/brand strengths and (5) long term viability/value.

It is never easy or quick to select winners, and each deal is a precious achievement in its own domain. For 2012 a total of 328 deals were reviewed and from which 145 deals were qualified as top Deal of the Year finalists. Ultimately, only 29 deals were judged as the award winning deals that were closed in 2011.

Dealmaker teams and firm awards are selected logically from group of finalists, winning transactions, along with additional attributes. Independent advisors audit the evaluative criteria and results. A complete write-up of the winners is made available end of May 2012.

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DEALMAKER TEAM HONOREES:
(Winner Selection Criteria: Recipient must have completed a deal that wins at the M&A Atlas Awards. The dealmaker award acknowledges the deal team leader on behalf of the deal, the team members and the firm.)

CORPORATE M&A DEALMAKER of the YEAR:
Robert Duffy, Vice President for Global Business, General Electric Company

Robert Duffy was honored for the M&A ATLAS AWARD winning deal - the sale of NBC Universal to Comcast Corporation as well as for his record of completing successful transactions since he joined GE in 2003. He has worked on a number of game-changing deals at GE including the recent acquisition of Converteam Group, a French electrical equipment developer from private equity investors for over three billion dollars and the acquisition of Dresser, a Dallas based global energy infrastructure company from investor group for three billion dollars.

PRIVATE EQUITY DEALMAKER of the YEAR:
Buddy Gumina, Partner and Co-Head of the Healthcare Group, Apax Partners

Buddy Gumina was recognized for award winning transaction - the acquisition of Kinetic Concepts, a medical devices company together with affiliates of Canada Pension Plan Investment Board and Public Sector Pension Investment Board. Buddy has a record of leading successful buyout and sale transactions in the healthcare industry -- a key growth sector among the five global sectors of expertise and focus at Apax Partners.

M&A INVESTMENT BANK DEAL TEAM of the YEAR:
Global Team, Goldman Sachs & Company

The award is presented to an investment banking team for quality of advice on series of complex transactions, that demonstrates depth of transactional expertise, receptiveness and elevated standards of client service. The Goldman M&A leadership team includes Gene Sykes, head and co-chair of global M&A, along with co-chair's Jack Levy and Tim Ingrassia, Michael Carr, head of M&A for the Americas and Gregg Lemkau, head of M&A for Europe, Middle East and Asia.

M&A LAWYER DEAL TEAM of the YEAR:
Americas Team, Davis Polk & Wardwell, LLP

The award is presented to a legal team for advising on challenging transactions, that illustrates keen understanding of transactional and jurisdictional issues, familiarity and attentiveness to client's goals. The practice group leadership team includes David Caplan, partner and co-head, led the Davis Polk team advising Comcast on its acquisition of NBC Universal, and George Bason, partner and co-head, led the Davis Polk team advising PepsiCo on several transactions including its recent acquisition of Wimm-Bill-Dann Foods.

MAJOR MARKETS FIRM of the YEAR AWARDS:
(Winner Selection: Several evaluative criteria including number of significant deals completed per eligibility standards, global operations, diversity in sector, and practice leadership team. League table rankings are not factored in the winner selection process. For private equity firm, the selection also includes number of solo buyout deals illustrative of the fund investment objectives, impact on the portfolio company, team leadership and potential of value generation.)

PRIVATE EQUITY FIRM of the YEAR:
The Blackstone Group

M&A INVESTMENT BANK of the YEAR:
Goldman Sachs & Co

M&A LAW FIRM of the YEAR:
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

M&A INVESTMENT BANK, BOUTIQUE of the YEAR:
Evercore Partners
GLOBAL DEAL AWARDS
(Not: It is the deal that wins. Trophy is presented to primary party involved in the deal - either the buyer or the primary financial or legal advisor to the deal.)

GLOBAL M&A DEAL of the YEAR | (Range $1 billion plus)
WINNER: Daimler AG and Rolls-Royce Group joint acquisition of Tognum AG.
Presented to: Daimler AG
Deal winners circle: Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Goldman Sachs

GLOBAL M&A DEAL of the YEAR | (Range below $10 billion)
WINNER: Sale of Skype Global S.à r.l. by the investor group including Silver Lake Partners, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, ebay International AG, Andreessen Horowitz, Joltid Ltd. to the Microsoft Corporation.
Presented to: Sullivan & Cromwell legal advisor to Skype Global and Silver Lake
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs

GLOBAL M&A DEAL of the YEAR | (Range above $10 billion)
WINNER: Sale of Genzyme to Sanofi-aventis.
Presented to: Ropes & Gray legal advisor to Genzyme Corporation
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs

EMERGING MARKETS M&A DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Spartan Capital Holdings acquisition of Polkomtel S.A.
Presented to: Chajec, Don-Siemion & Żyto legal advisor to Spartan Capital Holdings

CORPORATE DEAL of the YEAR | (Range $1 billion plus)
WINNER: Peabody Energy Corp acquisition of Macarthur Coal Ltd
Presented to: Peabody Energy Corporation
Deal winners circle: UBS

CORPORATE DEAL of the YEAR | (Range below $10 billion)
WINNER: Actividades de Construcción y Servicios control acquisition of Hochtief AG.
Presented to: Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer legal advisor to Hochtief
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs

CORPORATE DEAL of the YEAR | (Range above $10 billion)
WINNER: Spin-off of NBC Universal LLC to joint venture entity consisting of General Electric Company and managed by the Comcast Corporation.
Presented to: General Electric Company, Davis Polk & Wardwell legal advisor to Comcast Corporation
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs, UBS

SPIN-OFF | DIVESTITURE DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Fortune Brand separates into Fortune Brands Home & Security, Beam Inc and sale of the Acushnet Company (Titleist/FootJoy golf brands) to a Korean consortium consisting of Fila and Mirae Asset Private Equity
Presented to: Centerview Partners advisor to Fortune Brands

PRIVATE EQUITY DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Emdeon Inc. acquisition by the Blackstone Private Equity.
Deal winners circle: Blackstone Private Equity, Barclays Capital, Ropes & Gray, UBS

CONSORTIUM DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Kinetic Concepts Inc acquisition led by Apax Partners together with affiliates of Canada Pension Plan Investment Board and Public Sector Pension Investment Board.
Deal winners circle: Apax Partners, along with limited partner investors Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, PSP Investments.
GLOBAL DEAL AWARDS

CROSS BORDER DEAL of the YEAR | (Range $1 billion plus)
WINNER: PepsiCo Inc. (USA) control acquisition of Wimm-Bill-Dann Foods OJSC (Russia)
Presented to: PepsiCo Inc.
Deal winners circle: Centerview Partners, Davis Polk & Wardwell

CROSS BORDER DEAL of the YEAR | (Range below $10 billion)
WINNER: Teva Pharmaceutical (Israel) acquisition of Cephalon Inc (USA).
Presented to: Teva Pharmaceutical

CROSS BORDER DEAL of the YEAR | (Range above $10 billion)
WINNER: Sale of Nycomed A/S (Switzerland) by investor consortium including Nordic Capital, DLJ Merchant Banking Partners, Coller International Partners and Avista Capital Partners to Takeda Pharmaceutical Co (Japan).
Presented to: Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer legal advisor to the Nycomed A/S
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs

REGIONAL DEAL AWARDS
(Note: It is the deal that wins. Trophy is presented to primary party involved in the deal - either the buyer or the primary financial or legal advisor to the deal.)

AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Gold Reef Resorts Ltd merger with Tsogo Sun Holdings Pty Ltd.
Presented to: Edward Nathan Sonnenbergs

ASIA PACIFIC DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: iGATE Corporation backed by Viscaria Ltd fund of Apax Partners acquisition of Patni Computer Systems
Presented to: iGATE Corporation, AZB Partners

EUROPE DEAL of the YEAR | WESTERN
WINNER: British Airways plc merger with Iberia Lineas Aereas de Espana SA (International Airlines Group).
Presented to: International Airlines Group
Deal winners circle: UBS, Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP

EUROPE DEAL of the YEAR | CENTRAL EASTERN
WINNER: INTER RAO UES acquisition and consolidation of over 30 power generation and distribution assets from several companies including Northgas, Third Generation Company, Federal Grid Company of Unified Energy System.
Presented to: INTER RAO UES

NORTH AMERICA DEAL of the YEAR | (Range $1 billion plus)
WINNER: J. Crew Group, Inc. take private by TPG Capital and Leonard Green & Partners, L.P
Presented to: Ropes & Gray legal advisor to TPG Capital

NORTH AMERICA DEAL of the YEAR | (Range above $5 billion)
WINNER: CenturyTel acquisition of Qwest Communications International Inc. (CenturyLink)
Presented to: Barcays Capital financial advisor to Century Tel
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs

SOUTH AMERICA DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Grupo de Inversiones Suramericana acquisition of Latin American insurance business from ING Group.
Presented to: UBS

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GLOBAL INDUSTRY DEAL AWARDS
(Note: It is the deal that wins. Trophy is presented to primary party involved in the deal - either the buyer or the primary financial or legal advisor to the deal.)

CONSUMER GOODS & SERVICES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: VF Corporation acquisition of The Timberland Company
Presented to: Davis Polk & Wardwell and Ropes & Gray legal advisors to VF Corp and Timberland respectively.
Deal winners circle: Goldman Sachs

ENERGY & SERVICES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: BHP Billiton Group acquisition of Petrohawk Energy Corporation
Presented to: Sullivan & Cromwell legal advisor to BHP Billiton Group
Deal winners circle: Barclays Capital, Goldman Sachs

FINANCIAL DEAL of the YEAR
Presented to: Schulte Roth & Zabel legal advisor to Cerberus Capital
Deal winners circle: Cerberus Capital, Goldman Sachs

FOOD & BEVERAGE DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: SABMiller plc acquisition of Foster Group Ltd.
Presented to: SABMiller, Goldman Sachs

HEALTHCARE DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: DENTSPLY International Inc. acquisition of Astra Tech AB from AstraZeneca.
Deal winners circle: DENTSPLY International, Goldman Sachs

MATERIALS & RESOURCES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Peabody Energy Corp acquisition of Macarthur Coal Ltd.
Presented to: Peabody Energy Corporation
Deal winners circle: UBS

INDUSTRIALS GOODS & SERVICES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Ecolab Inc. acquisition of Nalco Holding Company
Deal winners circle: Ecolab, Inc., Goldman Sachs

TECHNOLOGY & SERVICES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Hewlett-Packard Company acquisition of Autonomy Corp plc
Presented to: Barclays Capital financial advisor to HP
Deal winners circle: Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, UBS, Goldman Sachs

REAL ESTATE & SERVICES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: Ventas, Inc. acquisition of Nationwide Health Properties, Inc.
Presented to: Centerview Partners financial advisor to Ventas Inc.

TELECOM & SERVICES DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: VimpelCom Ltd. acquisition of Wind Telecom S.p.A via combination with Weather Investments S.p.A
Presented to: UBS lead financial advisor to VimpelCom

UTILITIES & POWER DEAL of the YEAR
WINNER: INTER RAO UES acquisition and consolidation of over 30 power generation and distribution assets from several companies including Northgas, OAO OGK-3 and Federal Grid Company of Unified Energy System.
Presented to: INTER RAO UES

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