

NEWS

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IMAP-Thomson Reuters Survey Predicts Global “Buyer’s Market” for M&A Transactions

CONTACT:

Julio Garcia or John P. David
David & Garcia PR for IMAP
(305) 255-0035
Julio@DavidGarciaPR.com

Paul Sandell
Thomson Reuters
44 20 7542 8616
paul.sandell@thomsonreuters.com

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (Oct. 22, 2009) — International merger and acquisition professionals predict a moderate decrease in M&A activity during the next six months, despite a lagging economy and lack of funding, according to survey results released today by IMAP, the global organization of leading independent mergers and acquisition advisors, and Thomson Reuters, a leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals, which conducted the study.

The “2009 M&A Outlook” survey suggests that even though financing terms may be worsening, it is still a “buyers market” and financing is available for the right deals.

Complete results from the “2009 M&A Outlook” survey of IMAP offices in more than 35 countries, will be officially released at the “2008 IMAP Market Intelligence Global Briefing”, on Thursday, October 23, 2008, 5:00PM-7:00PM at the De Industriële Groote Club, Dam 27 Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Investment banking analysts from Thomson Reuters will present and moderate a discussion of the survey, including relevant data on industry sectors and regions expected to experience the most M&A activity, and the role of private equity firms in future M&A transactions.

More than 125 of the most active and experienced mergers and acquisitions advisors from around the globe are expected to attend.

About IMAP:

IMAP is an exclusive global organization of leading merger and acquisition advisory firms. Formed in 1973, IMAP is composed of 56 firms with 100 offices in 35 countries throughout North and South America, Eastern and Western Europe, Australia and Asia. IMAP transaction advisors completed 254 transactions in 2007 with an aggregate transaction value of \$9.95 billion.

IMAP advisors provide strategic merger, acquisition, divestiture and related corporate finance services. Sellers of mid-size companies and corporate acquirers alike rely upon IMAP for essential local market knowledge and industry expertise delivered with unparalleled global reach. More information is available via the Internet at www.imap.com

Editor's Note: Embargoed complete survey results are available in advance of the global briefing. You can view the results at http://imap.com/pdfs/M&A_Market_Intelligence_Update08.pdf

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