

\*\*\*Press Release\*\*\*

Association for Corporate Growth New York Chapter concluded the New York ACG Cup of 2009, a case study competition designed to bring together the brightest MBA students and provide them with real world experience and invaluable insights into mergers and acquisitions, investment banking, financial advisory and private equity by giving them access to the leading practitioners in those fields.

The final round of the competition, held on April 2, 2009 at the Metropolitan Club in New York, was the culmination of a series of intra-school and regional competitions. MBA students representing Cornell, NYU, St. Johns, Fordham, Pace, Hofstra and Baruch presented valuation, capital markets and M&A strategic advice to a panel of seasoned M&A professionals from the ACG community, including professionals from Allied Capital, CapX Partners, Grant Thornton, Houlihan Lokey and Wasserstein & Co. The winning team, from The Johnson School of Business at Cornell University, was awarded the ACG Cup title and a cash prize.

"In such a challenging current environment, it is critical that we not lose sight of the future," stated Carlos Ferreira, coordinator of New York ACG Cup and a Partner at Grant Thornton. "As a forum for building relationships in the dealmaking community, ACG New York is committed to building the next generation of business leaders by helping them network with potential employers, team members and mentors." Mr Ferreira added: "On behalf of ACG New York, I would like to congratulate the winning team and all of the participants for a job well done and thank the judges for their invaluable contribution."

The final round of the New York ACG Cup took place as part of ACG New York's 5th Annual M&A DealSource and Capital Connection Conference, the region's premier deal sourcing and networking event.

About Association for Corporate Growth New York ACG New York is the premier New York membership organization that facilitates relationship- building and focused education for middle market deal- making professionals in the world's financial market. Each year over 4,000 professionals participate in ACG-NY's 30 or more events which include educational meetings, breakfasts, monthly luncheons and 6 large events. ACG New York is part of the global organization which encompasses over 12,000 members in 54 chapters in North America and Europe. For more information or to become a member, please visit <http://chapters.acg.org/nyc/>.

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