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**Perella Weinberg Partners Appointment of Andrew Bednar**

**New York/London, August 1, 2006**— In response to inquiries, Perella Weinberg Partners is pleased to confirm that Andrew Bednar will join the firm as a partner and will be based in New York.

Bednar has been a managing director and head of U.S. mergers and acquisitions at Banc of America Securities, LLC. He previously was a managing director and senior mergers and acquisitions investment banker at Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Joe Perella said: "We are very excited about the addition of Andrew to our Firm. He brings a wealth of mergers and acquisitions experience which will be of significant value to our clients."

Perella Weinberg Partners is a financial services firm, with offices in New York and London, that provides corporate advisory and investment services to clients around the world.

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Andrew Bednar has over 12 years of investment banking experience, most recently at Bank of America, where he served as Head of US M&A, and previously, 7 years at Goldman Sachs, where he was a Managing Director and senior M&A professional.

While at Bank of America, in his capacity as Head of US M&A, Andrew was responsible for new business development, transaction execution, product

policies, and management of personnel. Additionally, Andrew was a member of the Global Investment Banking Leadership Team and was the Chairman of the Fairness Review Committee.

During his tenure with Goldman Sachs, Andrew led the execution of numerous M&A transactions across a broad range of industries, including energy, technology and real estate. Prior to Goldman Sachs, Andrew was an M&A professional with Salomon Brothers. Andrew began his career as an attorney with Cravath, Swaine & Moore.

Andrew earned a BS and an MBA from Cornell University, and also received a JD from Columbia University.