



Media Contact:
Thomas Walek
O: 212-590-0531
C: 917-353-7575

WALEK & ASSOCIATES NAMES JOHN FORD AS COUNSEL

NEW YORK/HONG KONG, September 28, 2009 – Walek & Associates announced today that John Ford has joined the firm as Counsel. Mr. Ford will work with Walek’s clients and support its international growth.

In 2000, Mr. Ford joined The Blackstone Group, a leading alternative asset manager and financial advisory firm, to lead its global corporate communications efforts. Mr. Ford headed media relations, advertising, and internal and external corporate communications across all of Blackstone’s business groups. He was at Blackstone until the end of 2008 and continues to act as a consultant to the company.

“John is an excellent complement to our internationally recognized work in alternative asset management, global capital markets, financial communications and transactions,” said Thomas Walek, agency founder. “We are delighted to welcome John to the team.”

Mr. Ford brings nearly three decade of experience in global financial and corporate communications including Blackstone and J.P. Morgan, where he served as Vice President and Head of Corporate Communications for the bank’s European operations.

Walek & Associates

Walek & Associates is one of largest and fastest-growing independent, global financial and corporate public relations firms. Founded in 1998 and with offices in New York and Hong Kong, Walek specializes in public relations and investor relations in capital markets, traditional and alternative asset management, professional and financial services, information and financial technology, and public companies in all sectors. From building visibility and brand to financial PR, financial transactions, product and service launches, and managing crises, Walek delivers results that help clients build business. www.walek.com.

Walek & Associates was recently named “Top Independent PR Firm” in the Financial/Investor Relations category by *O’Dwyer’s PR Services Report* and received the Boutique Public Relations Firm award from *Hedge Fund Journal*.

New York

Walek & Associates
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 2300
New York, NY 1007
212-889-4113

Hong Kong

Walek & Associates (Hong Kong) Ltd.
21/F ICBC Tower, Citibank Plaza
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong
852-2273-5102