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WALEK & ASSOCIATES MARKS 10TH ANNIVERSARY WITH OPENING OF HONG KONG OFFICE

RECEIVES BOUTIQUE PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM AWARD

NEW YORK/HONG KONG – October 20, 2008 – Walek & Associates Inc., one of the largest and fastest-growing independent financial and corporate public relations firms in the U.S., today announced the opening of a Hong Kong office to serve new and existing clients.

“To be a player in today’s financial and economic environment, you have to be on the ground in the Asia-Pacific region,” said Thomas Walek, agency founder and President. “This is the right time and Hong Kong is the right place.”

Walek & Associates is headquartered in New York and Hong Kong is the firm’s second office. In Hong Kong, Walek will represent existing and new clients in the firm’s core areas of expertise including capital markets, asset management, hedge funds, professional and financial services, information and financial technology, and public companies in all sectors. New clients in Hong Kong include Marco Polo Pure Asset Management, Abax Global Capital and London-based Hedge Fund Intelligence.

They join the firm’s existing clients including Appleby, Custom House Administration, Dow Jones EMG, GFI Group, JPMorgan Funds, Man Group, Palo Alto Capital and Paulson & Co.

Initially, Thomas Walek will spearhead the Hong Kong office. The firm will announce permanent staffing in December.

Walek 10-year anniversary

The opening of the Hong Kong office coincides with Walek & Associates’ 10-year anniversary.

Since opening its doors in New York in October 1998, the firm has been driven by a “global boutique” business model. This means that Walek & Associates is committed to delivering the best attributes of large and small firms – the professionalism, resources and perspective of larger firms combined with the specialization, principal-led relationships, and the singular client focus only possible with smaller firms.

Walek & Associates is one of the consistently fastest-growing firms in its sector. For 2008, the firm expects to post revenue growth of nearly 20 percent, while since inception achieving a 25 percent compound annual growth rate.

Reflecting this growth, in September Walek & Associates was named the first U.S. recipient of the Boutique Public Relations Firm award from *The Hedge Fund Journal*, which cited Walek's "formidable global hedge fund practice."

About Walek & Associates

Walek & Associates is one of largest and fastest-growing independent 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, asset management, hedge funds, 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.

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