

AKIN BAY
For Immediate Release

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October 1, 2007. New York City. James B. Rybakoff, CEO of Akin Bay, announced today that Vaud E. Massarsky will lead the firm's Growth Partners program, which creates exclusive alliances with top-tier specialty consulting firms. These alliances will combine the exceptional sector intelligence and strategic insights of these consulting firms with the investment banking success and technical financial skills of Akin Bay. The alliances will provide clients an integrated approach to achieving their growth and other strategic objectives, where access to merger and acquisition advisory services, financing, or other financial issues are central.

Mr. Massarsky, who is a Managing Director of Akin Bay, will select for alliance purposes only those consulting firms whose reputation and sector understanding have earned them the respect and attention of the CEOs, boards, and senior executives of companies in their respective sectors. Mr. Massarsky's long experience of creating joint ventures within and without the consulting world, as well as his experience in the venture capital world, provide him with the uncommon experience and insight that these alliances will require.

This type of alliance is also designed to greatly increase the profile, and the range of deliverables, which a specialty-consulting firm can bring to its sector. A consulting firm aligning itself with Akin Bay in a Growth Partners alliance can now provide to its clients a direct pathway to investment banking advisory services matched to the clients' strategic growth needs, eliminating the confusion and delay attendant on a search for an investment banker with the necessary understanding of its business model, industry position and growth imperatives.