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**Willkie Paris Enhances Bankruptcy and Litigation Practices
with the Arrival of Maurice Lantourne**

New York, NY (November 13, 2008) --- Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP today announced that it has enhanced its bankruptcy and litigation practices in Paris by welcoming leading French specialist, Maurice Lantourne. Mr. Lantourne, previously a partner at Fried Frank, joins the firm as a partner in the Paris office, and is accompanied by five experienced associates.

Mr. Lantourne is a recognized expert in restructurings of financially troubled companies. His clients include corporate debtors, creditors, and investors acquiring distressed assets and businesses. In addition to his bankruptcy work, Mr. Lantourne is also a highly regarded trial lawyer focusing on both commercial and white-collar criminal matters.

At Willkie, Mr. Lantourne and his team will work with the Paris restructuring group headed by Alexandra Bigot and the litigation group headed by Dominique Mondoloni. Mr. Lantourne's expertise will complement the Paris office's long-established preeminence in the areas of private equity, capital markets, competition law and taxation. With Mr. Lantourne and his team on board, the Paris office will be more uniquely positioned to provide comprehensive and leading-edge solutions for the most complex legal and business challenges, in particular those arising out of the current financial crisis.

The arrival of Maurice Lantourne and his team is the latest step in the development of the firm's European practice and is expected to create further synergies with its strategic alliance partner, Dickson Minto, particularly with its outstanding London-based debt restructuring team.

Willkie Chairman Jack H. Nusbaum stated, "We are delighted to welcome Maurice to the firm. His considerable expertise and experience reinforces our ability to deliver high quality restructuring services on a global basis, and to expand our already substantial involvement in multilateral restructurings."

Maurice Lantourne said, "I am pleased to have joined Willkie's Paris office. I look forward to working with its distinguished teams to provide counsel for leading corporations and top tier private equity firms."

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP is an international law firm of over 650 attorneys with offices in New York, Washington, Paris, London, Milan, Rome, Frankfurt and Brussels. The firm is headquartered in New York City at 787 Seventh Avenue. Tel: 212.728.8000.

In Alliance with Dickson Minto W.S., London and Edinburgh.