WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP

787 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10019-6099 212 728 8000

Fax: 212 728 8111

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Antoinette McGovern Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Tel: (212) 728-8404

Email: amcgovern@willkie.com

WILLKIE FRANKFURT GAINS CAPITAL MARKETS LEADER DR. MICHAEL SCHLITT

New York, NY (September 23, 2008) --- Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP today announced that Dr. Michael Schlitt has agreed to join the firm as a partner in its Frankfurt office, effective October 1, 2008. Dr. Schlitt, presently a partner at Fried Frank, is recognized as one of Europe's leading Capital Markets experts. In recent years, Dr. Schlitt has represented many of the world's largest and highest-profile financial institutions and corporations in some of the most noted Capital Markets transactions in Europe. His clients have included Citi, Credit Suisse, Dresdner Kleinwort, Morgan Stanley, UBS, JPMorgan, Merrill Lynch, Munich Re, Allianz, Salzgitter AG, and Wacker Construction Equipment AG. A leading authority on the intricacies of Capital Markets Law, Dr. Schlitt lectures at the University of Cologne and is the author of numerous publications on Capital Markets and take-over issues.

"Michael's decision to join us confirms our position as a leading German boutique firm offering clients sophisticated seamless advice in M&A/Corporate/PE, Capital Markets, Tax and Finance," said Mario Schmidt. "With the addition of Dr. Schlitt we now have in place the four cornerstones of our practice and can offer a project-based practice in Frankfurt built around top local practitioners, as promised to the market," said Jochen Winter. Willkie Chairman Jack H. Nusbaum said, "We are pleased to welcome Michael to our Frankfurt team. His record and reputation as one of Europe's top Capital Markets lawyers combined with our other highly

regarded core practice areas will further solidify our standing as one of the very top full-service transactional firms in Germany."

"I am delighted to be joining Willkie, which has an unparalleled reputation for excellence in all of the practice areas it serves. I look forward to working with the firm's extensive international network of the finest practitioners to provide my clients with top caliber legal advice," said Dr. Schlitt.

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP is an international law firm of approximately 700 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.

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