

**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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**THE NATION'S LARGEST GROUP PURCHASING ORGANIZATION  
HOSTS SPEND MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO**

*Corporate United hosts SYNERGY 2009, its eighth annual spend management conference, this May in Chicago to educate and initiate corporate collaboration and networking among its attendees.*

CLEVELAND— April 1, 2009 — Corporate United, the nation's largest group purchasing organization, hosts its eighth annual SYNERGY spend management conference May 12-14, 2009 in Chicago. SYNERGY 2009 is designed to educate and initiate corporate collaboration and networking among Corporate United's members, as well as other leading supply chain and spend management professionals.

“Over the past eight years, SYNERGY has quickly gained steam and is now one of the most highly anticipated indirect spend management conferences for professionals across all industries and geographies in the U.S.,” said Marc Rosen, president of Corporate United. “We are pleased to offer our members and invited guests complimentary admission to SYNERGY in a day and age when budgets are more stringent, but the value in continuing education, corporate collaboration and networking are essential.”

**SYNERGY Speakers & Topics**

- ... Jim Donald, former CEO, Starbucks and Pathmark  
*There's Never Been a Better Time to Start Stealing...Market Share*
  
- ... Mickey North Rizza, research director, AMR Research, Inc.  
*How Industry Leaders are Saving in the Current Economy*

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- ... Dawn Tiura Evans, president & CEO, Sourcing Interests Group (SIG)  
*Balancing Relationships and the Need to Renegotiate*
- ... Marty Dunne, executive vice president, InterCall  
*Increasing Business Efficiency, Decreasing Business Expenses*
- ... Vaughn Hovey, lecturer, The Ohio State University  
*Integrating Account and Supply Management*
- ... Aram Minnetian, president, Weichert Relocation Resources, Inc.  
*Next Practices in Relocation and Assignment Management*
- ... Michael Shaut, CEO, Carbon Markets  
*Trading Carbon Credits*
- ... Kip Wright, president, TAPFIN Process Solutions  
*Benefits of Services Procurement Management*
- ... Stephen Frenkel, director of negotiations, Mediation Works, Inc.  
*Adapting Your Negotiation Approach in the Current Economic Environment*
- ... Jerome Gerber, regional vice president, Volt Workforce Solutions along with Taylor Corporation  
*Implementation in a De-Centralized Organization*
- ... Tim McCarthy, director of contracts and pricing, Rockwell Automation  
*How Partnerships Lead to Effective Supply Management*
- ... Geraint John, editor-in-chief, CPO Agenda  
*How Procurement Can Move Upward in the Downturn*

### **CFO Q&A Panel**

The CFO Q&A panel discussion will provide an unprecedented opportunity for Corporate United members and invited guests to learn how procurement is viewed in the eyes of these key strategic leaders. The CFO panel will include Brad Dickerson, CFO of Under Armour, as well as other senior leaders.

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### **Supplier Exposition**

SYNERGY 2009 will feature a Supplier Exposition, allowing attendees to interact with Corporate United's growing portfolio of suppliers. Suppliers featured at this year's exposition will include:

- ... AssetAuctions
- ... CentiMark Corporation
- ... Cintas Corporation
- ... Choctaw-Kaul Distribution Company
- ... Fastenal Company
- ... InterCall
- ... Konica Minolta Business Solutions
- ... OfficeMax
- ... Spectrum Coffee & Water, Inc.
- ... TAPFIN Process Solutions
- ... VANTAGE GROUP
- ... Volt Workforce Solutions
- ... Weichert Relocation Resources, Inc.

### **Employment Networking Seminar**

At SYNERGY 2009, Corporate United will be presenting an employment networking seminar and opening its conference to supply chain professionals currently searching for new employment.

SupplyStaff, a leading staffing and recruitment firm focused exclusively on procurement and supply chain professionals, will be on hand to offer guidance to job seekers, members of Corporate United and other invited guests.

### **Corporate United Supplier of the Year Presentation**

During the SYNERGY conference, Corporate United will recognize its 2009 Supplier of the Year. The Supplier of the Year honor is an annual award given to the supplier that ranks highest in overall satisfaction among Corporate United members.

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### **Attendees**

Corporate United invites CFOs, CPOs, VPs, presidents and directors/managers of procurement/purchasing, supply chain, spend management, strategic sourcing and operations to its annual SYNERGY conference for education and to initiate corporate collaboration and networking.

### **Event Sponsors**

SYNERGY 2009 event sponsors include: Advanced Integrated Solutions, Asset Auctions, CentiMark, Choctaw-Kaul Distribution Company, Fastenal, InterCall, Konica Minolta Business Solutions, OfficeMax, Sanford Brands, Spectrum Coffee & Water, Volt Workforce Solutions and Weichert Relocation Resources.

### **Complimentary Admission**

Admission to SYNERGY is complimentary for Corporate United members and supply chain and spend management professionals. Registration for the event is required. Visit <http://www.corporateunited.com/synergy2009> for registration, event details and to learn about the continuing education credit opportunities.

### **About Corporate United**

Corporate United is the nation's leading group purchasing organization, with more than 100 Global 2000 companies across every industry sector collaborating for the purposes of enhancing their spend management efforts, sharing best practices and interacting with an unrivaled network of professionals.

For more than a decade, Corporate United has provided its membership with unique solutions to more effectively manage indirect spend across their enterprise. By combining leveraged agreements with ongoing supplier development and implementation support, member organizations realize savings and resource flexibility. For more information, contact our headquarters at 440.895.0938 or visit [www.corporateunited.com](http://www.corporateunited.com).

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