

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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SYNERGY 2010 DRAWS NATION'S FOREMOST SPEND MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS FOR EDUCATION, BEST PRACTICE SHARING, NETWORKING

Corporate United's ninth annual SYNERGY conference featured supply chain industry experts, members and suppliers as speakers for three days in Chicago.

CLEVELAND — May 17, 2010 — Corporate United, the nation's largest group purchasing organization, hosted its ninth annual SYNERGY spend management conference May 4-6, 2010 in Chicago. The conference provided more than 100 procurement and spend management professionals the opportunity to learn, share best practices and network with each other and with experts in the industry.

Event Highlights

Among SYNERGY 2010's featured sessions were:

- Keynote address by Dr. Marci Rossell, former chief economist and co-host for CNBC's *Squawk Box*
- CPO Q&A Panel discussion, featuring:
 - Henkel of America, Inc. Vice President of Purchasing Michael Bavaro
 - OfficeMax Executive Vice President of Supply Chain Reuben Slone
 - Munich Reinsurance America, Inc. Head of Procurement, Sharon Spina
- Media presentation by Andrew Reese, editor of *Supply & Demand Chain Executive*
- Supplier Exposition, allowing attendees to interact with Corporate United's growing portfolio of suppliers

Event Presentations, Audio Recordings & Photographs

Visit the [Corporate United website](http://www.corporateunited.com) for speaker PowerPoint presentations, audio recordings and photographs from SYNERGY (only available until May 24).

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SYNERGY 2010 Attendee Reactions

SYNERGY attendees provided the following feedback on their conference surveys:

“As I've said in the past, SYNERGY is by far the best, most relevant, worthwhile and fun event I participate in each year. I'd definitely recommend it to colleagues.”

“One of the best conferences I've attended in terms of content and networking opportunities.”

“The SYNERGY conference is educational, interesting and a great place to network with other procurement professionals.”

“Great conference, many insightful speakers and really good networking. Nice central location.”

“The event was very informative and thought-provoking.”

Corporate United Supplier of the Year Award

Corporate United presented OfficeMax with the 2010 Supplier of the Year award at SYNERGY. The Supplier of the Year award is given to the vendor ranking highest in overall member satisfaction based on a survey of Corporate United member companies. The survey, which reviews 29 Corporate United category agreements, asks members to rate suppliers based on account management, pricing, level of quality, breadth of offerings and overall satisfaction.

"OfficeMax is very proud to receive the prestigious Supplier of the Year award from Corporate United," said Jim Durkin, executive vice president, North America sales for OfficeMax.

“Corporate United represents a best-in-class business membership and is to be commended for having the vision to look beyond traditional purchasing constraints and embrace innovative OfficeMax services that raise the level of value for their member companies.”

About Corporate United

Corporate United is a member-based organization whose mission is to advance the collective spend management efforts of its member companies; it achieves this by combining access to market-leading leveraged agreements and the application of category lifecycle management

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(CLM). Through its CLM process, Corporate United handles the ongoing management of the contracts and suppliers across its more than 25 pre-negotiated indirect agreements.

Corporate United is comprised of more than 160 member companies, spanning every industry sector and representing over \$40 billion in aggregated spend. Founded in 1997, Corporate United is headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio. For more information, contact us at 440.895.0938 or visit www.corporateunited.com.

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