

**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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**SYNERGY ATTENDANCE UP MORE THAN TWENTY PERCENT FROM 2008**

CLEVELAND — June 5, 2009 — Corporate United, the nation's largest group purchasing organization, hosted its eighth annual SYNERGY spend management conference May 12-14, 2009 in Chicago. SYNERGY achieved its highest attendance ever this year and drew more than 80 of the nation's leading companies.

**SYNERGY 2009 Attendee Feedback**

“When cutbacks forced me to only register for one event this year, I knew it would be SYNERGY 2009.”

**Sherri Eicher, Director of Strategic Sourcing  
Regis Corporation**

“Thank you for everything you did at SYNERGY. The conference was outstanding and it was obvious a lot of hard work and many hours went into the preparation. Well done.”

**Tom Youngquist, Buyer/Planner  
Faribault Foods**

“Excellent, well-managed event. I have been involved with event planning at Wheaton for 16 years, so I know a thing or two about what it takes to put on a first-class event. Bravo to the Corporate United team for a super, well-coordinated and planned conference. We learned a heck of a lot and, hopefully, will be a positive contributor to the member network in years to come.”

**David L. Witzerman, President  
Wheaton World Wide Moving**

**Corporate United Supplier of the Year**

Corporate United honored Konica Minolta Business Solutions as its 2009 Supplier of the

Year at SYNERGY 2009. 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 18 Corporate United category agreements, allows its members to rate suppliers based on account management, pricing, level of quality, breadth of offerings and overall satisfaction.

"Winning the Supplier of the Year award for the third time validates our commitment to providing services to the Corporate United membership," said Jim Lange, senior vice president, corporate accounts, Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A. Inc. "Our relationship with Corporate United is of significant value to us, and we are appreciative of the opportunity to provide our products and services to the membership, all of whom are leaders in their respective industries."

### **Supplier Exposition**

SYNERGY 2009 featured a Supplier Exposition, allowing attendees to interact with Corporate United's growing portfolio of suppliers. Suppliers featured at this year's Supplier Exposition offered the following feedback on the event:

"I thought the SYNERGY conference was very well done. The feedback I received from members and our team was that it was worth their investment of time and money. I thought the business meeting format was great and provided an incredible opportunity for us to expand our business relationships. I was very encouraged by the number of new opportunities being generated by your team and the sincere interest in our total solutions approach with the current members."

**Jim Durkin, Executive Vice President  
OfficeMax**

"On behalf of myself ... and all of Choctaw-Kaul, we want to personally thank you for another very successful SYNERGY event. We were able to receive numerous potential opportunities from this event and look forward to securing any and all new business we can not only for Choctaw-Kaul but for Corporate United as well."

**Kevin Naso, National Account Manager  
Choctaw-Kaul Distribution Company**

**SYNERGY 2009 Presentations Available Online**

Corporate United is pleased to offer all speaker PowerPoint presentations from the event on its website at [www.corporateunited.com](http://www.corporateunited.com) by clicking the SYNERGY link on the homepage. Additionally, the website features audio recordings of the keynote address by Jim Donald, former CEO of Starbucks and Pathmark, the CFO Panel discussion, which included Brad Dickerson, CFO of Under Armour, Brad Wilson CAO of Grant Thornton LLP and Ron DiNella, CFO of Morton's Restaurants, as well as the presentation by Geraint John, editor-in-chief of *CPO Agenda*. SYNERGY 2009 event photographs can also be found on the website.

**About Corporate United**

Corporate United is the nation's largest group purchasing organization, serving the world's leading companies across every industry sector with sourcing, contract management and networking solutions. Corporate United's more than 130 member companies collaborate 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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