

For immediate release

Abacus completes acquisitions totaling \$300 Million in transaction value in 2008, and begins rollout of new approach for dislocated M&A markets

March 3, 2009, Vancouver, BC - Abacus Private Equity is pleased to announce that it completed transactions with a total value of approximately \$300 Million in 2008, despite challenging market conditions. Since 2005, Abacus Private Equity has completed acquisitions with a combined enterprise value in excess of \$1.8 Billion across numerous industries.

“We are extremely proud of our achievements to date, but recognize that the current market environment requires unique solutions. We have spent the past several months designing new acquisition structures that, we believe, are quite powerful given the state of the global capital markets. We will be meeting with financial, legal, and tax advisors across the country over the next several months to explain our approach. Markets may remain in a state of flux, but the personal goals of business owners have not changed. We believe that the successful advisory and private equity firms will be those that think outside the box and present business owners with new and creative solutions that provide value in today’s market,” said Gene Gomes, Managing Director.

Abacus focuses on bringing value to sellers of Canadian businesses, regardless of industry, through structured acquisitions. Abacus maintains strong relationships with the foremost experts in the fields of corporate law, tax and finance, complementing its internal teams to develop and offer unique proposals that culminate in highly efficient business sale transactions. These solutions generally revolve around achieving a vendor’s personal and financial goals.

About Abacus Private Equity

Abacus Private Equity is a leading independent investment firm that has been acquiring Canadian and international corporations and partnerships for more than a decade. Since 2005, Abacus has acquired in excess of \$1.8 Billion in assets through its affiliated divisions. Abacus possesses depth of knowledge, expertise in diverse industries and substantial resources for new opportunities.

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