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GERSON LEHRMAN GROUP, A-CONNECT ENTER ALLIANCE

Gerson Lehrman Group joins forces with a-connect, a leading global network of top-tier independent consultants; clients of both firms obtain access to complementary services

New York, NY / Zurich, Switzerland—February 6, 2009—To seize opportunities created by the global economic environment, two fast-growing network firms today announced an alliance to make their combined suite of offerings available to mutual clients.

Under the agreement, clients of Gerson Lehrman Group, the world's marketplace for expertise, will now be able to commission in-depth, long-term engagements from a-connect's vetted network of more than 750 premier independent strategy and operations consultants. a-connect's consultants are based globally and have expertise across all sectors. Clients of a-connect, in turn, will benefit from a-connect's access to the Gerson Lehrman Group Councils, in which more than 200,000 consultants make their knowledge available for diverse, on-demand engagements.

Alexander Saint-Amand, Chief Executive Officer of Gerson Lehrman Group said: "We are very excited about a-connect's decision to become a Council Partner. Through Gerson Lehrman Group's Council Partner program, we have formed partnerships with leading information and consulting firms around the world. The fact that the world's most innovative service firms choose to join this program is of great benefit to our clients." Dmitri Mehlhorn, Managing Director of Global Operations for Gerson Lehrman Group added: "a-connect has culled the alumni networks of the world's top consulting firms to build a product of tremendous value. Our relationship with a-connect will spearhead our fastest-growing product segment: high-quality, mid-sized strategy engagements."

Hanne de Mora, co-founder of a-connect and Chairwoman of the Board, expressed enthusiasm for both sides of Gerson Lehrman Group's marketplace for expertise. "Gerson Lehrman Group's large network of experts provides cutting-edge content which our Independent Professionals can incorporate into their services to our clients. At the same time, Gerson Lehrman Group has aggregated episodic demand among a research-intensive client base, providing us and the Independent Professionals in our network with an attractive market for our services. Our alliance will enable both companies to provide additional insight and expertise to our collective clients."

a-connect and Gerson Lehrman Group will have presences on each other's Web sites to promote awareness of their services.

About Gerson Lehrman Group

Gerson Lehrman Group provides technology and services to support the world's marketplace for expertise. Since 1998, its platform for consultation and collaboration has helped the world's leading financial services firms, consultancies, corporations, and nonprofits find, engage, and manage experts in a broad range of industries and disciplines. Gerson Lehrman Group's unparalleled network of the world's leading expert consultants, known as the Gerson Lehrman Group Councils, includes more than 200,000 subject-matter experts who educate and provide insight to decision makers through a wide range of consulting methods, including telephone consultations, expert surveys, and seminars. Gerson Lehrman Group has invested in one of the world's most sophisticated infrastructures for expert recruiting and compliance. For more information about Gerson Lehrman Group, please visit www.glggroup.com.

About a-connect

a-connect provides the world's most distinctive pool of certified Independent Professionals (IPs) who bring insight, skill and experience to critical in-depth projects at companies around the globe.

The IPs are at the forefront of their fields, and bring fresh insight into business challenges without incurring the long-term costs associated with a permanent hire. Most of them combine a top tier consulting background with several years of management experience in a leading Fortune 500 company. Former Directors at McKinsey & Company in Zürich, the founders combined their experience in 2002 to source best-in-class talent, thus allowing corporations to keep budgets flexible as needs change. Today, a-connect works with a global pool of more than 750 highly qualified IPs and serves Global 500 multinationals, private equity and fast growing mid-sized firms all over the world from offices in Zürich, Dusseldorf, Boston, San Francisco, Hong Kong and Singapore.

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