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Joint study by CMS and mergermarket

Financial Services providers in Central and Eastern Europe set to become attractive targets for investors with cash to spend in 2009

Moscow / Dusseldorf – The joint study entitled "Financial Services in the CEE region" by CMS and financial news service mergermarket sheds light on the activity of Financial Services providers in Central and Eastern Europe.

The survey comes to a surprising conclusion: "The global financial crisis could fuel M&A activity in Central and Eastern Europe and in the CIS countries", says Dr Thomas Heidemann, partner at CMS Hasche Sigle. Some companies could see their value drop sharply during the course of the year, making them "attractive targets for investors with cash to spend".

The authors of the study also point out that the number of Financial Services transactions continues to tick up, in what is currently a difficult deal-making climate. M&A experts are seeing a trend towards putting deals on hold until things improve, but not abandoning them.

The report also provides an in-depth analysis of individual transactions in 2008 and takes a look forward to this year's deal prospects. The CMS study also uncovers market sentiment through systematic interviews with leading Financial Services sector executives.

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"There's an increasing need for expert advice in a difficult economic environment", says Heidemann. "CMS has an active and efficient team working in the FS sector and enjoys a first-class reputation in CEE."

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