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Cogent Partners Expands European Team

London – August 7, 2006 – Cogent Partners, a private equity-focused investment bank, today announced that Bernhard Engelién has joined the company as a director. Engelién will be based in Cogent Partners' London office, and will focus on advising limited partners in the UK and continental Europe.

Engelién comes to Cogent Partners from McKinsey & Company, the management consultancy, where he was an associate principal serving financial services companies and private equity firms on a broad range of strategy and corporate finance topics in the UK, continental Europe and the Middle East. He was also a leader of McKinsey's European Banking & Securities practice. Prior to McKinsey & Company, Engelién served as an equity analyst with Goldman Sachs in London.

"We're seeing an increasing demand for research-driven transactions in Europe, and we're making strategic hiring decisions to uphold our high standard of client service as we grow," said Colin McGrady, Managing Director at Cogent Partners. "Bernhard brings to our team an ideal combination of technical analysis skills and international experience to help our clients make more informed decisions."

Mr. Engelién holds a master's degree in economics from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, and a master's degree in international management from the Community of European Management Schools (CEMS).

About Cogent Partners

Cogent Partners is a leading private equity-focused investment bank that specializes in secondary market transactions and related private equity research products for institutional investors. Recognized globally as the leader in private equity sell-side advisory services, Cogent Partners has earned a reputation for successfully initiating, marketing, negotiating, structuring and closing the sale of private equity assets. Since inception, the company has advised on more than \$11 billion in private equity commitments. The firm's research group offers a range of private equity monitoring and due diligence services. Cogent Partners is headquartered in Dallas, with offices in New York, London and Tokyo.

For more information, please visit www.cogent-partners.com.

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