

# PRESS RELEASE

## PRESS RELEASE REGARDING PEAK PARTNERS SA, GENEVA (FORMERLY HARCOURT PARTNERS SA).

HARCOURT PARTNERS SA, a fund of hedge funds boutique based in Geneva and a provider of innovative solutions for institutional clients is pleased to announce that as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 it will change its name to **PEAK PARTNERS SA**.

This change reflects the significant enhancement of the firm's own research capabilities. Thanks to the recruitment of highly trained professionals, **PEAK PARTNERS SA** will reinforce its existing line and develop a range of new funds. At the same time, **PEAK PARTNERS SA** will continue to allow its long term partner, Harcourt Investment Consulting AG, manage some of its products.

The following is a list of the key people who have joined the company:

- Mr. Nikhil Jhangiani**, Administrator and Member of the Investment Committee.
- Mr. Dominique Grandchamp**, Senior Analyst, in charge of quantitative analysis and risk management.
- Mr. Thierry Fragnière**, Operations Manager

In addition, **Mr. Ernesto Prado** will join the company in April, 2006 as the company's CIO and Member of the Investment Committee.

By strengthen its own research team, **PEAK PARTNERS SA** will enhance its ability to pursue its dynamic strategy with a goal to offer its institutional client base, tailor made alternative solutions of above-industry-standards. Over the first quarter of 2006, **PEAK PARTNERS SA** will launch Mont Blanc Dynamic Management, a new fund managed by Mr. Nikhil Jhangiani using a proprietary allocation process on a managed accounts platform.

For further information: [www.peakpartners.com](http://www.peakpartners.com)

**Mr. Nikhil Jhangiani**, Administrator and Member of the Investment Committee. Nikhil has more than ten years experience in the alternative investment industry. He used to be Chief Alternative Investment Officer (CAIO) at Ferrier Lullin & Cie SA (now part of Julius Bär). Prior to that, Nikhil was a Senior Analyst in hedge fund research at Union Bancaire Privée (UBP).

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Cornell University, New York and a Master's Degree from IUHEI in Geneva.

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**Mr. Ernesto Prado**, CIO and Member of the Investment Committee.

Ernesto started his career in New York at Serfin Securities, the third largest Latin American broker.

Further on, Ernesto joins Fidelity Investments in Boston as a trader active in rebalancing large portfolios and later on Salomon Brothers in New York and London where he trades fixed income derivatives and fixed income arbitrage strategies.

In 1998, he successfully restructured Salomon's LTCM's portfolio in extremely volatile conditions.

In 2002, Ernesto joined Harcourt Investment Consulting AG as an executive director, member of the extended management team responsible for all Fixed Income and Macro portfolios. He held this position until early 2006 when he joined Peak Partners as Chief Investment Officer and Member of the Investment Committee

He obtained a dual MBA in Finance from the Stern School of Business in New York and in Applied Mathematics and Numerical Computing from New York University. He obtained a DEUG A in Mathematics from the Université d'Aix-Marseille.

**Mr. Dominique Grandchamp**, Senior Analyst

Prior to joining Peak Partners, Dominique was director at Harcourt Investment Consulting AG, a Fund of Hedge Funds where he was responsible for quantitative analysis of Hedge Funds and Relationship Management. There, he was in charge of the implementation of systems to support the due diligence process as well as the monitoring of Hedge Fund performance and risk.

Dominique is a frequent guest speaker at Hedge Fund conferences in Europe.

He started his career working for PriceWaterhouseCoopers where he was involved with the introduction of a new service line to perform financial balance sheet analysis of global corporate spending.

Dominique obtained a Master's degree with a specialization in Economics, Finance and Operations Research from Basel University, Switzerland. He also holds a second degree in International Marketing from Karlstad University, Sweden.

**Mr. Thierry Fragnière**, Operations Manager

Thierry joined Peak Partners in December, 2005. Prior to joining Peak Partners, he was a senior middle office officer at EIM S.A. There, he was in charge of reporting production, cash management and operational management of the portfolios. Between 2003 and 2005 Thierry was involved in the implementation of Webfolio, a comprehensive front-to-back software solution developed specifically for the hedge fund industry.

After his studies in Geneva, Thierry successively worked for Pictet Bank and Capital International as a Fund Portfolio Administrator.

He is currently pursuing certification at the Training Center for Investment Professionals Inc (CFPI-AZEK).

