



Press Release

Paris, September 14, 2009

PRIMEXIS joins THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE, third largest international association of independent accounting and consulting firms

- In becoming a member of one of the most active global alliances in the world, France leading accounting firm PRIMEXIS increases its capacity to provide services worldwide -

THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE, a highly active global alliance founded in the United States includes 145 member firms with a presence in over 90 countries.

Formed in the United States in 1999, THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE (LEA) is a global alliance of independently owned firms that provides the expertise and services of accounting and consulting firms worldwide.

With consolidated revenue of over 2 billion USD and sustained growth, in less than 10 years LEA became ranked the **third largest global alliance** by *Accountancy Magazine* in June 2009.

LEA has a strong presence in the United States, Europe and China. Most of the American firms in LEA are among the Top 100 firms in the United States in terms of revenue, earning LEA the "best of the best" distinction for 2009 in *Inside Public Accounting (IPA)*. In fact, LEA is ranked number one among alliances with the most Top 100 firms.

The secrets to THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE's success: outstanding organization that drives numerous operational partnerships between members

A study published in April 2008 by The Federation of European Accountants (FEE) identifies "groups of firms" as "*the leading current model adopted by accounting organizations to meet the increasing globalization of the market,*" but LEA distinguishes itself with **an organizational strategy that is highly operational and based on grouping "similar" firms**. Its member firms are essentially all relatively large (\$15 million on average), have sustained growth rates and provide the same services (accounting and consulting).

LEA's main objective is to create solid opportunities for partnerships and development between its member firms with strong growth potential. To meet this goal, LEA organizes several meetings and international working groups on a wide range of topics, including mergers and acquisitions, international taxation, IFRS, marketing, etc.

PRIMEXIS joins THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE to provide its clients continuity of services throughout the world

PRIMEXIS is major player in the accounting sector, and for over 30 years it has been supporting French and international corporate groups and subsidiaries in every business segment. Therefore, PRIMEXIS views this new opportunity as a surefire way to **strengthen its capacity to provide services worldwide while remaining independent**. It will also allow the firm to further its recognition abroad and its ability to attract high-level profiles from around the world.

"PRIMEXIS has always had a strong global client base through its International Business Services department. But through our entry into THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE, our clients will gain with closer assistance to their overseas offices and a new wave of expertise and talent," explains **Olivier Touchard, PRIMEXIS Chairman**.

About PRIMEXIS (www.primexis.eu)



A major player in the accounting sector driven to support French and international corporate groups and subsidiaries for over **30 years**, PRIMEXIS is now a firm of 280 personnel based in Paris-La Défense with a **consolidated turnover of 30 million euros (\$40 million)**. The firm is also unique for its **"specialization"** strategy with seven departments containing a range of sector expertise: Interim Management and Accounting Support (industry & services, banking, insurance); Organization and Information Systems Consultancy; Group Consolidation and Reporting; Real Estate/Public Sector; International Business Services; Payroll and HR Administration; Transaction Services.

In 2009, PRIMEXIS was awarded for the third consecutive year **SAS 70 Type II certification** (to meet Sarbanes-Oxley requirements) and is joining the global alliance THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE, the third largest association of independently owned accounting and consulting firms.

About THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE (www.leadingedgealliance.com)



Formed in 1999, THE LEADING EDGE ALLIANCE (LEA) is an alliance of major independently owned accounting and consulting firms that share an entrepreneurial spirit and a drive to be the premier providers of professional services in their chosen markets. LEA is currently the **third largest global association of independent accounting and consulting firms** as ranked by revenue by *Accountancy Magazine* in June 2009. With a presence in over 90 countries on 4 continents through its **145 members**, LEA includes 15,000 professionals representing revenue of more than 2 billion USD. LEA is a particularly active alliance that can provide accounting and consulting services throughout the world. Its members enjoy the benefits of a wide range of working groups and development opportunities, plus access to a pool of technical and informative resources.

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