

Tristan M. Brown to Join Simpson Thacher

Enhances Firm's Executive Compensation & Employee Benefits Practice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, New York – June 13, 2008 – Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP announced today that Tristan M. Brown will join the Firm's Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits practice as a partner in the Firm's Palo Alto office.

"We are pleased to welcome Tristan to the talented team of attorneys working in our Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits practice," said Pete Ruegger, Chairman of Simpson Thacher's Executive Committee. "Tristan will advise clients on a broad range of employee compensation and benefit matters. His skill and experience will be an important addition to the Firm and will enhance our practice in Silicon Valley."

"Having Tristan in Palo Alto will anchor our West Coast compensation and benefits work, as well as strengthen our efforts in Asia," explained Alvin Brown, the head of the Firm's Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits group.

"I am excited to join my new Simpson Thacher colleagues and the Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits group, which plays such an important role in the Firm's dynamic transactional practice," Tristan Brown commented.

Previously, Tristan Brown was a partner in the New York office of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, where he advised private equity clients and publicly held corporations with respect to executive compensation and employee benefit issues arising in corporate transactions. Mr. Brown received his B.A. with high distinction in history and political science from Trinity College, University of Toronto in 1993; his J.D. in 1996 from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, where he was an associate editor of the *Faculty of Law Review*; and his LL.M. in labor and employment law in 1997 from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was awarded the Thomas Bradbury Chetwood, S.J. Prize for ranking first in his LL.M. program.

Simpson Thacher's Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits group counsels clients in the structuring, negotiation and implementation of executive and employee compensation, equity and benefit arrangements over the broad range of legal matters on which the Firm's corporate practice is engaged. This includes advice on succession and integration issues in strategic mergers of public companies, negotiating management equity compensation programs critical to private equity acquisitions, developing benefit plan investments in venture capital and private equity funds, and implementing broad-based incentive arrangements in connection with initial public offerings.

CONTACT:

Jean Cleary
(212) 455-2180
jcleary@stblaw.com

ABOUT SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT LLP

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP (www.simpsonthacher.com) is a leading global law firm with offices in New York, Los Angeles, Palo Alto, Washington, D.C., Beijing, Hong Kong, London, and Tokyo. Established in 1884, the Firm has more than 800 lawyers. Globally, the Firm provides coordinated legal advice on the world's largest and most complex corporate transactions and litigation matters.

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