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CPR Institute Presents Law Firm Award for Excellence in ADR to London-based Herbert Smith

Eversheds Awarded Honorable Mention

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - NEW YORK, NY, January 16, 2009 – The International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR Institute) has presented the organization’s second annual “Law Firm Award for Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)” to London-based international law firm Herbert Smith LLP.

The CPR Institute – a membership-based, nonprofit alliance of global corporations, law firms, scholars, and public institutions dedicated to the principles of commercial conflict prevention and alternative dispute resolution – recognized Herbert Smith for its leadership and dedication to the principles of conflict management and resolution.

“For their commitment to principled and creative conflict management and resolution, the CPR Institute is proud to honor Herbert Smith,” said Kathleen A. Bryan, CEO of the CPR Institute. “We are pleased to recognize the firm for its firm-wide commitment to creative and collaborative dispute resolution.”

The award review committee comprised corporate counsel from General Electric, DuPont, Abbott Labs, Northrop Grumman, Johnson & Johnson and Microsoft, as well as faculty from the University of Missouri at Columbia Law School and Pepperdine University’s School of Law. Focusing on criteria including processes, techniques, systems, commitment and scholarship which address the resolution, prevention or creative management of major disputes, the committee acknowledged Herbert Smith for having:

- demonstrated firm-wide commitment to using ADR principles and techniques;
- proactively educated the legal market about the developing field of mediation and ADR; and
- set the benchmark for addressing the resolution, prevention and creative management of disputes through their development of an innovative ADR Toolkit shaped by the firm's in-house research into corporate ADR use.

Herbert Smith's Head of ADR, Alexander Oddy, commented: "We are grateful to the Award Review Committee and the CPR Institute for recognizing our commitment to excellence in the use of ADR in all its forms, which is a core aspect of maintaining our status as the leading dispute resolution practice in Europe and Asia."

In addition, Honorable Mention was awarded to international law firm Eversheds for their continued commitment to ADR education and the evolution of the firm's RAPID Resolution program. John Heaps, International Head of Litigation and Dispute Management at Eversheds, states, "We are delighted and honored to receive this prestigious Award from such an eminent international institution. It is recognition of the firm's long standing commitment to ADR and to innovation in the field of dispute and conflict management."

The awards were presented on January 15 at the CPR Annual Meeting held at the Intercontinental Barclay in New York City.

About CPR

CPR Institute provides thought leadership and innovation as the global resource for conflict management and resolution of complex business-related disputes. Our wealth of intellectual property and published material has educated and motivated General Counsel and their law firms around the world toward an increased reliance on alternative forms of dispute resolution rather than litigation. CPR Institute's membership is comprised of general counsel and senior lawyers of Fortune 1,000 organizations, partners in the top law firms around the world, as well as leading judges, government officials, neutrals, and academics. Our proprietary panel of esteemed arbitrators and mediators has provided resolutions in thousands of cases, with billions of dollars at issue, worldwide. For more information, please visit www.cpradr.org.

About Herbert Smith

Herbert Smith LLP is an international law firm with 1200 lawyers (including over 240 partners) and a network of offices in the UK, Europe and Asia. It has a formal alliance with leading German firm Gleiss Lutz and leading Dutch and Belgian firm Stibbe. Learn more at www.herbertsmith.com.

About Eversheds

Eversheds LLP and its world wide associate offices have over 3,500 legal and business advisers providing services to the private and public sector business and finance community. Access to all these services is provided through 40 international offices in 25 jurisdictions. Eversheds combines local market knowledge and access with the specialisms, resources and international capability of one of the world's largest law firms. More information is available at www.eversheds.com.