

MAPE ADVISORY GROUP AND FERGHANA PARTNERS, A SPECIALIST LIFE SCIENCES INVESTMENT BANK, SIGN A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Bangalore, India, and New York City, USA; September 2, 2008 – MAPE Advisory Group, an Investment Bank providing services to mid-market companies in the Pharmaceutical, Technology, Financial Services and Engineering sectors in India, announces today that it will become a strategic partner for the life sciences in India of Ferghana Partners, the global Healthcare and Chemicals corporate finance advisory firm.

MAPE was established in 2001 by Jacob Mathew and Ramprasad M, both senior investment bankers of a bulge bracket firm's Indian operations with excellent individual track records of closing many high profile corporate finance transactions. MAPE has done 60+ deals with a total deal size of more than \$3 billion. MAPE has offices in Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai & Delhi within India and one coordination office in Philadelphia, USA

Ferghana Partners was established in 1992 and is a leading corporate finance advisory firm in the biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, medical device and chemicals industries. Ferghana Partners provides a broad range of investment banking advisory services through its teams in New York, Boston, London, San Diego and Adelaide (Australia). Ferghana Partners has garnered an excellent track record of more than 30 transactions completed since January 2004 totaling more than \$5 billion including **M&A** (more than \$3 billion), **financing** (\$225 million) and **corporate partnering alliances** (nearly \$2 billion).

MAPE's alliance with Ferghana Partners in life sciences also includes **equity financing**, private placements for unquoted Life Sciences companies in India and PIPEs for quoted companies, with investors coming principally from the USA, Europe and Asia.

Bill Kridel, Managing Director at Ferghana Partners, welcomed the arrangements with MAPE, saying, "There is excellent research taking place in India and quite a number of mid-sized and large companies in the biopharmaceutical and medical device fields that may need strategic transaction advice on value-adding transactions taking place beyond the sub-continent. Similarly, Western and Asian life science companies look at India as a place of ever-increasing opportunity and hence will seek partners or acquisitions there. Thus, Ferghana Partners is pleased to be teaming up with MAPE in offering our joint industry expertise and transactional skills in advising life science clients interested in doing business in India. We are convinced that the MAPE-Ferghana team will provide a value-added service to the Indian market."

Jacob Mathew, Managing Director at MAPE adds, "I am pleased to announce the coming together of Ferghana Partners and MAPE. While the Indian Pharma firms have been globalizing, there has been increasing interest about Indian life-sciences space amongst global players. The combined forces of two entities should aim to fulfill any knowledge and perception gaps and enhance client participation."

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About MAPE Advisory Group

MAPE is a mid-market investment bank focused exclusively on Mergers, Acquisitions, Capital Raising and financial & strategic advisory services to public and private companies. Set up in December 2001, MAPE has closed deals in industries as diverse as Pharmaceuticals, Technology, Financial Services and Engineering. Its clients include many of the larger corporations operating in India. Led by senior investment bankers, MAPE provides value-added advisory and transactional services to help its clients identify and implement effective targeted transaction strategies.

About Ferghana Partners

Ferghana Partners, created by Bill Kridel in 1991, is an international provider of high level, independent corporate finance advice to firms in the pharmaceutical, chemical, diagnostics and biotechnology industries.

Ferghana Partners provides strategic advice on corporate development and ownership/business portfolio topics, such as mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures/alliance, licensing and divestitures to its clients, which are both major chemical, pharmaceutical and diagnostics companies as well as selected emerging biotechnology companies with a therapeutic or diagnostic focus. Ferghana Partners has an international perspective, conducting business in the US, the UK, Japan, Australia and Continental Europe. Ferghana Partners Group has offices in New York, London, Boston, San Diego and Adelaide and a joint venture in Israel.