

## Global M&A Snaps Back, A Strong 2011 Expected

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Overall value and volumes are below the frenzied levels of 2007 but chemical M&A is active again. Some \$36 billion in chemical deals were completed in 2010, up 44% from 2009, says Peter Young, president of Young & Partners (Y&P; New York). The number of deals completed in 2010 was 64, more than double 2009 levels ( *chart*). The Y&P data reflects deals valued at more than \$25 million. Activity remains below the average levels of the past ten years. The volume of deals completed was typically in a range of 80-90/year in 2000-2010 with a peak of 99 deals in 2007, Young says. “There was a dramatic slowdown in 2008 and 2009 before volume picked up again in 2010.” There is a large backlog of deals waiting to close, an indicator that activity will be strong in 2011. The value of announced but not completed deals as of December 31 was \$26 billion, compared with \$6.3 billion at the end of 2009. “That is a clear sign of increased activity,” Young says. “We expect 2011 to be another active year, barring any major shocks, with activity matching or exceeding 2010 levels.”