## For Immediate Release

## Young & Partners and Virtus BR Partners join forces to provide Cross-Border Brazilian Mergers and Acquisition Services in Chemicals and Life Sciences

New York, New York (USA) and Såo Paulo (Brazil), November 7, 2011 - Young & Partners, LLC, an international investment banking firm dedicated to the chemicals and life sciences industries, and Virtus BR Partners, a leading multi-industry investment banking firm in Brazil, today announced their affiliation to provide cross-border merger, acquisition, divestiture, and joint venture services to both Brazilian and non-Brazilian clients in chemicals and life sciences.

With increasing interest in Brazil amongst international companies, international expansion by Brazilian companies and the importance of international buyers for Brazilian companies seeking shareholder liquidity, this joint venture has been formed to serve an important market need.

Under this affiliation, Young & Partners (<u>www.youngandpartners.com</u>) and Virtus BR (<u>www.virtusbr.com</u>) will jointly pursue and execute Brazilian cross-border merger, acquisition, divestiture, and joint venture assignments in the Chemical and Life Science industries where the client is either a Brazilian company and the assignment involves a non-Brazilian party or where the client is a non-Brazilian company and the assignment involves a Brazilian company.

Young & Partners' deep industry knowledge, international industry contacts and extensive M&A execution experience will be coupled with Virtus BR's knowledge of the Brazilian market, contacts with Brazilian companies and extensive M&A execution experience. Both firms have the same philosophy of senior level involvement in all phases of transactions. The scope of the joint venture does not include any financing work for clients, work that is not Brazilian cross-border in nature, or any work outside of the chemicals and life sciences industries.

"The interest in and importance of Brazil has never been higher," said Peter Young, president of Young & Partners. "By allying with Virtus BR, we will be able to help our clients outside of Brazil identify and successfully execute transactions in Brazil and strong Brazilian companies find the right international buyers and partners. We will be able to do this with a proven, integrated cross-border team at the helm."

Eleazar de Carvalho Filho, Virtus BR founding partner added: "Virtus BR is a highly successful financial advisory firm and has completed many landmark deals across a wide variety of industries in Brazil . With Young & Partners at our side, we can bring chemicals and life science industry insight and global market access that few firms can match."

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