

## Press release

### **Celerant Consulting strengthens Private Equity team with three new senior hires**

London, 3 November 2008 – The private equity team at Celerant Consulting (Celerant), the global management consultancy specialising in operational improvement, is strengthening its market position with the announcement of three new appointments to its dedicated Private Equity and M&A team. Ian Turner, Sandy MacPherson and Peter Smith all join as Directors to support David Axon and Keith Mulholland, who have driven the growth of the company's private equity offering in Europe this year.

All three new hires have extensive private equity and M&A expertise covering a wide variety of sectors. Ian, who previously worked for Ernst & Young, has 28 years' experience in technology consultancy specialising in private equity, due diligence and project/programme management in the IT sector. Ian has also held director positions at Nasdaq Europe, Netlife AG and Turner Design.

Sandy MacPherson has over 20 years of experience with a wide range of service, product and capital intensive organisations including financial services/private equity, energy, utilities, property and logistics. Before joining Celerant he worked with Deloitte, IBM Global Services and specialist performance improvement consultancies across the UK, continental Europe, Americas and the Middle East.

Peter Smith has worked in private equity since the early 1990s, and recently formed a fund focused on small underperforming businesses. His new role with Celerant builds on his experience of successfully leading private equity backed MBI buy-and-build businesses, implementing effective integration and restructuring plans.

The three new directors will join a 25-strong European team that has enjoyed a period of strong demand and robust growth. Celerant's global private equity team numbers 50 worldwide, and advises private equity houses and acquisitive companies throughout the whole transactional life-cycle, from pre-deal operational due diligence to post-acquisition support. These appointments not only consolidate the company's position in the marketplace, but also provide a greater depth of experience in a range of key sectors.

**David Axon, Head of Private Equity at Celerant**, said: "The credit crunch has made it far more difficult for private equity houses to use leverage to create value and so they are increasingly looking to improve the overall operational performance of acquisitions and existing portfolio companies. The arrival of Ian, Sandy and Peter mean Celerant is better placed than ever to bring its operational expertise to bear across a greater range of sectors. Their arrival will help us progress towards our ultimate target of establishing Celerant as a leading adviser to the private equity sector."

**-Ends-**

*For more information or interviews please contact Enda Joyce at hanover on 020 7400 4480 or Charles Carr at Celerant on 07887 628 985.*

### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **About Celerant Consulting**

Celerant is the largest independent global firm working in the operations management sector of the consulting market. It delivers operational transformation and helps leading companies worldwide achieve and sustain world class performance from their business operations.

Celerant's difference is simple: it believes that once it has fixed a problem for a client, it should stay fixed. The essence of Celerant's approach is that its consultants work side-by-side with people in the front lines of business – from the boardroom to the shop floor – to ensure the delivery of sustainable and measurable benefits. Celerant embeds long-term behavioural change into the culture of its clients' organisations – the key to sustainable change – a unique approach called Closework®.

Last year Celerant delivered over €600m/\$1bn in annualised sustainable savings to its clients and over the last 20 years it has become the largest independent firm of business operations consultants, with annual revenues of over €110/\$170m in 2007.

For more information visit [www.celerantconsulting.com](http://www.celerantconsulting.com)