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**For Immediate Release
March 2, 2009**

AMHERST PARTNERS ADDS MANAGING DIRECTOR IN CHICAGO

Birmingham, Michigan (January 19, 2009) Amherst Partners today announced that Terry M. Keating has joined the firm as a Managing Director in its Chicago office.

Prior to joining Amherst Partners, Mr. Keating spent more than 25 years in the financial services industry working with middle market clients. In addition to 18 years at LaSalle Bank in Chicago, Mr. Keating has worked with other commercial banks, investment banks and his own consulting practice. As a senior executive at LaSalle Bank, Mr. Keating established a new business unit focused on financial services companies, including consumer finance, commercial finance, leasing and mortgage banking.

With his significant career experience, Mr. Keating understands the policies, procedures, practices and technology used by successful financial services companies. Having worked with and performed due diligence on over 400 companies, Mr. Keating has a strong operational knowledge base and understands the "best practices" necessary for success. Mr. Keating has spoken at many industry conferences and seminars, testified as an expert witness in criminal and civil matters, and written articles on the financial services industry.

Mr. Keating serves on the Board of Directors for Kaleidoscope, Inc., a child social services agency in Chicago that helps troubled, abandoned and neglected children. He has served as Treasurer from 1995 through 1998, and Chairman from 1998 through 2006.

Mr. Keating received a BSBA in Economics from Valparaiso University and an MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management.

About Amherst Partners

Since 1994, Amherst Partners has assisted middle market businesses by providing comprehensive merger and acquisition, corporate restructuring, and management advisory services. With offices in Birmingham and Ann Arbor, Michigan, Chicago, Illinois, and Columbus, Ohio, Amherst brings together skill in the

merger and acquisition process, expertise in finance and operational management, and a network of local and global resources. Amherst is a member of IMAP, the world's largest global M&A network.

For more information on Amherst Partners, please visit www.amherstpartners.com.

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