



## Press release

New York and Chicago, 22 September 2016

### **Rothschild & Co announces opening of Chicago office, continuing expansion of North American business**

#### **Eric Hirschfield Joins as Head of Chicago Office and Midwest Region**

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Rothschild & Co Group, one of the world's leading independent financial advisory groups, today announced the opening of a Chicago office, reflecting the continued growth of Rothschild Global Advisory in North America. The group today also announced that Eric Hirschfield, a widely respected investment banker, has joined Rothschild Global Advisory as a Managing Director and Head of the Chicago office. Mr. Hirschfield, who has 28 years' experience as an M&A professional, joins Rothschild & Co from Goldman Sachs where he was a Managing Director.

Located at 77 West Wacker Drive, the Chicago office will serve Rothschild & Co's global client base, with investment banking expertise in over 50 offices in 40 countries. A core team of bankers has already joined Eric in the Chicago office.

Announcing the office opening, James (Jimmy) Neissa, Head of Rothschild & Co North America, said, *"We are excited to grow our presence to the Midwest, expanding Rothschild's position as a leading independent financial advisory firm in North America. We see tremendous opportunities to deliver unparalleled global capabilities and perspective to both current and future clients in the region, in collaboration with our offices around the world."*

Mr. Neissa continued, *"Eric Hirschfield is a distinguished investment banker with professional roots in Chicago and throughout the Midwest, whose experience and knowledge will serve our clients well. Eric's addition further enhances a Global Advisory team in North America, with offices in New York, Los Angeles and Washington, that delivered a record performance in the most recent fiscal year. It is a pleasure to welcome Eric to the firm."*

Eric Hirschfield added, *"I am honored to open up the first ever Chicago office for such a respected institution. We plan to be a trusted adviser and permanent presence in the Midwest."*

Over the last several years, Rothschild Global Advisory's North American business has advised on a number of high-profile transactions involving Chicago and Midwest-based businesses. These include Volkswagen Truck & Bus' acquisition of a strategic participation in Navistar, Powerflute's recommended cash offer from Madison Dearborn, Hostess Brands' merger with Gore Holdings, Lytx's sale to GTCR, General Mills' divestiture of Green Giant to B&G Foods, WireCo's common equity investment by Onex, and Bayer's potential acquisition of Monsanto.

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#### **Notes to Editors**

##### **Eric Hirschfield – Biography**

Eric joined Rothschild from the Goldman Sachs Chicago office where he ran the global paper and packaging group and covered a variety of other clients across industries. He has been in investment banking for 28 years, working in Chicago, New York and Paris. Eric has worked on over 50 public and private M&A transactions, several activism defense engagements, restructurings, and myriad IPOs, follow-on offerings, investment grade and sub-investment grade debt financings. Eric lives in Glencoe, Illinois with his wife and two daughters. He is on the Board of the Lyric Opera of Chicago and is a 1988 graduate of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

Rothschild Global Advisory in North America has 29 Managing Directors including new senior hires over the past three years: James Neissa (Head of Rothschild & Co North America), Lee LeBrun, Eric



Hirschfield, David Baron, James Ben, Kieran Doran, PJ Moses, Adam Reeder, Dan Skolds, and Kenneth Surjadinata.

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**About Rothschild & Co**

Rothschild Global Advisory, a division of the Rothschild & Co Group, designs and executes strategic M&A and financing solutions. It combines the breadth of its advisory offering with a high volume of transactions to achieve a unique understanding and perspective into markets and participants worldwide.

Rothschild Global Advisory provides impartial, expert advice to large and mid-sized corporations, private equity, families and entrepreneurs, and governments through an unrivalled network of 900 industry and financing specialists in 40 countries worldwide.

Rothschild & Co is one of the world's largest independent financial advisory groups. There are three main arms to the Group – Global Advisory, Private Wealth & Asset Management and Merchant Banking.