

Past Events - Detail Page

Title: A C-Level View of Rough Seas
Category: Luncheon Meeting
Location: The Standard Club, 320 S. Plymouth Ct.
Start Date: April 22, 2008
End Date: April 22, 2008
City: Chicago
Description:

A C-Level View of Rough Seas

Date: April 22, 2008

Place: The Standard Club

Time: 11:30 am to 1:15 pm

Join us to delve into the nuances of managing corporate growth through the volatile times we are experiencing. These C-level executives bring extensive experience from a variety of markets and backgrounds to guide us through 2008 and beyond.

Moderator

James C. Tyree, Chairman & CEO, Mesirow Financial

Speakers

Don Hindman, President & CEO, Clark National

Don Holz, Former CFO, Home Products and CFO, Backyard Leisure, LLP

Bill Williams, Partner, Tatum, LLC

James C. Tyree serves as chairman and chief executive officer of Mesirow Financial, a diversified financial services firm headquartered in Chicago. The firm is an employee owned private company with more than 1,100 employees in 30 locations across the country, Puerto Rico and London. With nearly \$30 billion in assets under management, Mesirow Financial is well capitalized and has been consistently profitable, with revenues for fiscal 2007 reaching a record \$450 million and capital of \$210 million. Jim's entire career has been with Mesirow Financial, joining the firm in 1980 as a research associate and quickly rising through the ranks to be named president in 1990, chief executive officer in 1992 and chairman and chief executive officer in 1994.

Jim's vision is to build a firm that offers clients a range of high-quality financial services. To accomplish this, he has assembled a team of experts in Investment Management, Investment Services, Insurance Services, Investment Banking, Consulting and Real Estate. During his tenure as CEO, he has led Mesirow Financial to exceptional levels of growth in all areas of the business. Over the past 20 years the firm has grown both internally as well as through over 50 acquisitions. Acquisitions of firms such as Stein & Company, a premier real estate organization, Near North Insurance Brokerage's Chicago office and Dann Insurance, two leading insurance agencies, and the U.S. Corporate Recovery practice from KPMG, have strengthened Mesirow Financial's ability to serve clients with a variety of needs.

Don Hindman is President and CEO of Clark National, Inc., a leading wholesale distributor of packaging systems and janitorial maintenance items. Clark is the 10th largest distributor of foodservice packaging in the U.S., with \$250M in revenues coming from its 9 operating companies servicing 20 states.

Mr. Hindman joined Clark, his family's business, as Vice President of Sales & Marketing in 1994. Prior to joining Clark, Mr. Hindman practiced law at Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon where he concentrated on commercial litigation. Mr. Hindman sits on the Board of Directors of Clark National, Inc.; the International Foodservice Distributors Association (IFDA); the Young Presidents

Organization (YPO); St. Gregory's Episcopal School for Boys; and Grace Episcopal Church. Mr. Hindman received his B.A. from Middlebury College and his J.D. from the Indiana University School of Law.

Donald J. Hotz is the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Backyard Leisure, LLC, a private equity held company that is the largest manufacturer of wooden swingsets and playsets in the United States. Mr. Holtz has just begun his tenure there joining the company in February 2008. Prior to joining Backyard Leisure, Mr. Holtz was the CFO of Home Products International, Inc., a manufacturer of injection molded consumer plastic products and one of the only remaining domestic manufacturers of ironing boards. Mr. Holtz also spent 3 years as CFO of Merisant, Inc., a spinoff of Monsanto and the worldwide manufacturer and distributor of Equal and Canderel artificial sweeteners. Mr. Holtz was CFO of Tab Products prior to that and was key to the sale of that public company to a private investor. Mr. Holtz spent 17 years with Moore Business Forms in various senior financial roles and was with the Public Accounting firm of Melton & Melton in Houston, Texas.

Most of Mr. Hotz's career has been with manufacturing firms and with companies focused on consumer products. He works very closely with the Board of Directors in his role as CFO as well as the outside investor community, analysts, rating agencies and banks. Mr. Hotz responsibilities have ranged from managing all aspects of finance to treasury, audit, Sarbanes-Oxley, capital financing, high yield debt issuances, managing legal aspects of the company and restructurings. Mr. Holtz was instrumental in the debt to equity restructuring of a company in 90 days.

Mr. Hotz received his BSBA degree in Accounting and Computer Science from Central Michigan University and has spent most of his career in the Chicago area with brief stops in Houston, Dallas, Albuquerque, Toronto and now Kansas.

Bill Williams is Partner in the Chicago practice of Tatum, LLC whose more than 25-year career includes serving as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operation Officer, and management consultant for companies in the consumer products, chemicals, distribution, automotive, and technology sectors. Tatum is the nation's largest and fastest-growing executive services firm, helping companies in transition to accelerate business success and create more value.

Mr. Williams led the successful startup of Shared Services at Martin Browner Company, LLC, centralizing transaction processing for 12 distribution centers, improving internal controls, and reducing operating costs, while leading a company-wide \$2 million overhead reduction initiative. As CFO of Steelcase, Inc., Mr. Williams led the manufacturing rationalization of the underperforming U.S. wood furniture business unit, reducing cost structure by \$8 million and facilitating return to profitability. As CFO, Engineered Materials Sector of Allied Signal, Inc. implemented cash flow improvement efforts that achieved a \$10 million working capital.

Mr. Williams received his BS degree from Northern Illinois University, MBA in Finance from the University of Chicago and JD from De Paul University.

Registration Fees

\$40.00 ACG Members pre-registered by April 18
 \$50.00 ACG Members registered after April 18
 \$55.00 Non-ACG Members registered by April 18
 \$65.00 Non-ACG Members registered after April 18

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations received in writing to Chicagoacg@acg.org no later than 5pm, April 21st will receive full credit. There are no refunds on cancellations received after 5pm on April 21st. All no shows will be invoiced. Payment is expected at the time of registration.

Platinum Sponsors





RSM McGladrey, Inc.



Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP



Ungaretti & Harris LLP



Gold Sponsors

BMO Capital Markets

CM&D

Crowe Capital Markets LLC

Getzler Henrich and Associates LLC

Golub Capital

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Lincolnshire Management, Inc.

Mesirow Financial

Stout Risius Ross

Vedder, Price P.C.

Wells Fargo Business Credit

Winston & Strawn LLP

Silver Sponsors

AccuVal Associates, Incorporated

CIT Corporate Finance

Gould & Ratner LLP

Huron Consulting Group

The Jordan Company

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

National City Bank Equity Sponsor Group

ORIX Finance

Reed Smith LLP

Tatum LLC

[HOME](#) | [Events](#) | [Join](#) | [Links](#) | [Leadership](#) | [News](#) | [Sponsors](#) | [Library](#) | [Member Directory](#) | [Past Events](#) | [ACG.org](#)

© 2009 ACG