

Executive Sounding Board

Associates Inc.

Management and Financial Consultants

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Executive Sounding Board Associates Inc. Named Outstanding Turnaround Firm

Philadelphia, PA—November 10, 2011 —Executive Sounding Board Associates Inc. (ESBA) announced that it has been named a 2011 Outstanding Turnaround Firm by *Turnaround & Workouts*, a leading restructuring industry publication produced by the Beard Group. The Outstanding Turnaround Firm designation is presented to firms annually in recognition of their outstanding achievements during the year.

During 2011, ESBA saved or created over 7,000 global and U.S.-based jobs, created or preserved value in excess of \$250 million for involved stakeholders in client transactions and acted as trusted adviser to over 50 clients. The firm is consistently ranked as a top turnaround firm in *The Deal's* league tables.

“We are honored to receive this highly prestigious designation that continues an ESBA tradition of excellence in the turnaround industry,” said Martin I. Katz, Founder and President of Executive Sounding Board Associates Inc. “This award would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our professional and administrative staff. The depth of our expertise, longevity in the market and favorable reputation enable us to serve a range of clients, from middle-market to Fortune 500 companies, both private and public.”

ESBA completed an extensive number of engagements during 2011 across all its practice areas including bankruptcy advisory (debtor or creditor side representation), turnaround management and performance improvement, corporate finance (sell-side and buy-side mergers and acquisitions, financial restructurings, refinancings, quality of earnings assessments), fiduciary services (liquidating/distribution trusts) and served as chief restructuring, operating and financial officers for clients.

Notable transactions during 2011 included:

- DeCoro, Ltd and DeCoro USA, Ltd- Chapter 15 and International Business Restructuring
- Metaldyne Corporation Liquidating Trust- Chief Trustee Officer after the Carlyle Group Credit Bid Purchase and Lead Syndicator
- Prominent Cultural Museum- Financial Advisor for Strategic Vision
- Sonix Resources- Chief Restructuring Officer through 363 Bankruptcy Sale
- Manufacturer/Distributor- Corporate Finance Restructuring through 363 Bankruptcy Sale and Subsequent Refinancing
- World-Renowned Confectionary Manufacturer- Financial Restructuring

About Executive Sounding Board Associates Inc.

For over 34 years, Executive Sounding Board Associates Inc., a leading turnaround and crisis management advisory firm, has worked with U.S. and international middle market companies experiencing financial or operational challenges. Over 1,000 public and privately-held companies have benefited from ESBA's partnering

approach to restoring value for its clients while restoring confidence with the clients' shareholders including investors, lenders, customers, suppliers and employees. Serving the needs of clients across a wide range of industries, ESBA also has specialty practice areas focused on healthcare companies, government contractors, performing arts and cultural institutions, and not-for-profit organizations. The Beard Group, publisher of *Turnarounds and Workouts* Magazine, *The Deal* publication and the M&A Advisor organization have recognized ESBA as one of the top turnaround consulting firms. In addition, its professionals are consistently ranked among the top ten crisis management professionals in the United States. Headquartered in Philadelphia, ESBA has offices in New York City and Baltimore.

For more information, visit www.esba.com.