

Media Contacts: Emily Vogl, Frank Vogl Tel: U.S. 202 331 8183 e-mail: voglcom@gmail.com

Barbara C. Matthews Establishes Financial Regulatory Consultancy

Washington, DC, February 2, 2009 – Barbara C. Matthews has established BCM International Regulatory Analytics IIC in Washington DC to provide strategic analytical and advisory services on current regulatory issues to boards and senior executives around the world. “The company provides strategic tools to help boards and senior executives make good decisions on how to adapt to rapidly changing transparency, corporate governance, and financial oversight standards at home and abroad,” said Ms. Matthews. The company’s website (www.bcmstrategy.com) highlights the detailed “Awareness,” “Analytics” and “Advisory Services” that the company provides to a broad range of clients.

Ms. Matthews was until recently the U.S. Treasury Attaché to the European Union based in Brussels, a position that Treasury asked her to create. In that position, she participated in the U.S. – EU Financial Markets Regulatory Dialogue and the U.S. – EU Investment Dialogue. Ms. Matthews previously served as Senior Counsel to the Financial Services Committee at the U.S. House of Representatives, where her responsibilities included advising Members on oversight of international financial regulation and international financial institutions.

Commenting on the immediate situation, the Managing Director of BCM International Regulatory Analytics, said, “Proposals for how to “fix” domestic and global systems are sprouting up quickly now, like daffodils in spring. Urgent action is needed. But understanding how to operate in this environment requires experienced and independent insight into complex global regulatory policy processes as well as creativity in devising better ways to provide, use, and understand financial instruments.”

Ms. Matthews noted, “Financial services users, preparers of financial statements, consumers of financial statements, and financial firms themselves must focus now on the strategic implications raised by often-arcane policy debates among a growing number of G-groups (G7, G20, G27 - the EU), I-groups (IMF, IOSCO, IAIS, BIS), F-groups (Financial Stability Forum, Financial Stability Institute) and one O-group (OECD). The decisions taken in 2009 by these groups and their nation-state members will affect profoundly who has access to credit and on what terms for the foreseeable future, influencing how senior managers and board directors adapt their risk management and oversight approaches. Last year was about survival and reaction to the news cycle. This year is about crafting proactive survival strategies based on facts and hard analysis.”

Ms. Matthews has been a thought leader, speaker, and respected author on international financial regulatory issues for over 17 years. She also played a leading role in establishing the regulatory policy activities at the Institute of International Finance, where she served as the company’s Banking Advisor and Regulatory Counsel. Ms. Matthews, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, holds two law degrees from the Duke University School of Law. Her experiences include dealing with the policy implications of: the savings & loan and BCCI crises in the United States; the East Asian financial crisis; the Basel 2 credit risk capital framework; valuation standards, including mark-to-market accounting; implementation of the international provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; and many aspects of the unfolding current financial crisis while in Brussels.