



## John Rolander and Srin Venkateswaran Join Marakon Management Consulting at Charles River Associates (CRA)

September 15, 2014

*Consultants Strengthen Marakon's Focus on the Financial Services Sector*

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sep. 15, 2014-- [Charles River Associates](#) (NASDAQ:CRAI), a worldwide leader in providing [management, economic, and financial consulting](#) services, today announced that [John Rolander](#) and [Srin Venkateswaran](#) have joined [Marakon](#), a management consulting practice at CRA. They bring decades of experience advising companies in the financial services sector.

"It is a pleasure to welcome John Rolander and Srin Venkateswaran to CRA and Marakon," said CRA's President and Chief Executive Officer [Paul Maleh](#). "John and Srin are highly experienced consultants who specialize in working with banks, asset management firms, and other financial institutions. They are a great addition to our team, and support our vision of growing Marakon's management consulting offering in core sectors, such as financial services."

Marakon Leader [Mason Kissell](#) added, "We are excited to welcome John and Srin to Marakon. Their focus in wealth management rounds out an expertise that Marakon has been interested in growing as part of our broader financial services offering."

Mr. Rolander specializes in wealth and asset management, with particular expertise in sales effectiveness, sales strategy, marketing, and distribution. Before joining Marakon, he was a partner in the financial services practice at Booz & Company. Prior to that, he was at Katzenbach Partners (which was acquired by Booz) and at BCG. He began his consulting career in London in the 1980s at The MAC Group, which was acquired by Cap Gemini, where he led the global financial services business. He earned an MBA from Columbia Business School, a M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School, and a BA from Yale College.

Mr. Venkateswaran specializes in advising investment management and consumer finance firms on strategy, operations, M&A, and organizational effectiveness. Before joining Marakon, he was a partner and global leader of the digital financial services practice at Booz & Company. Prior to that, he was a director of corporate strategy at Citi Cards. Representative consulting engagements include positioning and strategy for a bank-owned asset manager, post-merger strategy for a global asset management firm, strategic transformation of the mortgage business of a money center bank, and due diligence for M&A opportunities in credit cards and merchant acquiring. Mr. Venkateswaran has also authored white papers on asset management and consumer finance and has been quoted in trade publications, including the *Financial Times* and *American Banker*. He is on the board of The New York Landmarks Conservancy, and holds an MBA in Finance & Strategy from Columbia Business School.

### **About Marakon**

Marakon specializes in strategy and helping CEOs and their leadership teams achieve winning performance and stronger organizations. Marakon has been working with business leaders for more than 30 years and has built a reputation for working with a client portfolio that has consistently outperformed its peers. Its consulting teams combine deep sector experience and functional knowledge. Marakon's approach is underpinned by value creation as the common denominator for decision making, a rigorous process based on a deep set of facts, and the assessment of alternative strategies as a mechanism to build leadership team commitment to the best path forward. More information is available at <http://www.marakon.com>.

### **About Charles River Associates (CRA)**

Charles River Associates® is a global consulting firm specializing in litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting, and management consulting. CRA advises clients on economic and financial matters pertaining to litigation and regulatory proceedings, and guides corporations through critical business strategy and performance-related issues. Since 1965, clients have engaged CRA for its unique combination of functional expertise and industry knowledge, and for its objective solutions to complex problems. Headquartered in Boston, CRA has offices throughout the world. Detailed information about Charles River Associates, a registered trade name of CRA International, Inc., is available at <http://www.crai.com>.

Source: Charles River Associates

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