

## **ABeam acquires U.S. financial consulting firm Hazelwood Partners**

TOKYO, JAPAN 2010/8/31 - ABeam Consulting, Ltd. announced today the completion of its acquisition of U.S. financial consulting firm Hazelwood Partners (Dallas, Texas; William J. Stuart, CEO).

Since the establishment of its U.S. offices in 2003, ABeam has expanded business operations there through the acquisition of Qorval Integrated Solutions (QIS) in 2006, and of Tranzation in 2007. Aimed at fostering further growth of U.S. operations, the most recent acquisition reflects the importance ABeam places on entering the financial consulting services industry, which represents the largest consulting market in the United States.

Since it was formed in 2008, Hazelwood has established itself in the industry by steadily expanding sales with a customer base that includes the country's largest banks. Hazelwood decided to join the ABeam Consulting group as it now sets its sights on other financial institutions, as well as global business expansion. Plans call for William Stuart to take over leadership of the Financial Service Industry Business Unit (BU) within ABeam Consulting of the United States.

"We see mutual value in every aspect of this transaction. Clearly the Hazelwood team is excited about the sheer scale of reach, resources, and management depth we will enjoy with ABeam and how that translates to meeting more of clients' needs more quickly. And there is no doubt that ABeam is gaining one of the most experienced and respected group of consultants with deep expertise in the management and technology issues that most challenge banks today. When you add to that the compatibility of our business values, I feel comfortable assuring our clients and our employees about the wisdom and potential of our decision." said William J Stuart, CEO of Hazelwood Partners.

"Following on the 2007 purchase of U.K. financial consulting firm Catalyst Development, this new acquisition reinforces our ability to provide globally-based services to our customers in the financial industry," said ABeam Consulting President Toshinori Iwasawa. "It is also one component of our overall global growth strategy in that it will help us support U.S. customers looking to develop business in Asian markets. We decided to go ahead with the plan upon becoming convinced that Hazelwood would make a reliable partner for us, sharing as they do our core values, not just as a company but as members of a team solidly bound by ties centering on Mr. Stuart."

### **About Hazelwood Partners**

Hazelwood Partners helps companies align business and technology. Hazelwood does this by applying its industry proven business/technology integration framework to help clients better define business needs, understand and translate those needs into technology requirements, and then realize the fulfillment of meeting these needs by managing tactical implementation efforts. Hazelwood's tag line: "Strategic Leadership, Tactical Execution, Measurable Results" was formed based on our client commitment that we are, like ABeam, a real partner, focused on real results.

For more information, please visit [www.hazelwoodpartners.com/index.htm](http://www.hazelwoodpartners.com/index.htm)

### **About ABeam Consulting**

ABeam Consulting provides business transformation services that create strategic advantage, improve business processes, leverage technology innovation, and enhance organizational performance for leading multinational and

domestic companies worldwide. ABeam partners with clients to diagnose and solve their real challenges with solutions that combine industry and operational best practices with technical expertise. Pragmatic approaches ensure that clients gain measurable value more quickly. Headquartered in Tokyo, ABeam's 3,500 professionals serve more than 700 clients throughout Asia, the Americas and Europe. For more information, please visit [www.abeam.com](http://www.abeam.com).

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