

## **M.D. SASS-MACQUARIE LAUNCHES AMERRA CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC**

**February 25, 2009**

**New York, New York** — M.D. Sass-Macquarie Financial Strategies, L.P., a joint venture between M.D. Sass and the Macquarie Group, today announced the launch of AMERRA Capital Management, LLC (AMERRA). AMERRA will target agriculture and metals companies in the Americas and will fund transactions across the capital spectrum by providing customized commodity finance solutions to commodity producers, processors and distributors.

Leveraging the combined 40 years experience of its co-founders, Craig Tashjian and Nancy Obler, AMERRA will identify, structure and execute unique capital financing transactions.

Prior to forming AMERRA, Mr. Tashjian was Managing Director and Head of the Natural Resources Group in the Americas for Societe Generale (SG). Previously, he was Global Head of Commodity Finance at Standard Chartered Bank. He holds an MBA from Rutgers University and a B.S. from Lehigh University.

Previously, Ms. Obler was Managing Director, regionally managing the soft commodities business for SG. Prior to joining SG she was a Vice President at Standard Chartered Bank. She holds an MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and is a graduate of Dartmouth College.

### ***About M.D. Sass-Macquarie***

*M.D. Sass-Macquarie Financial Strategies, L.P. is an alternative strategies private equity fund managed by M.D. Sass and the Macquarie Group. The fund identifies, seeds and supports the next generation of traditional and alternative asset managers. The M.D. Sass-Macquarie joint venture provides these asset managers with access to capital, market intelligence, institutional oversight, operational and marketing support, and also takes an active role in their corporate governance and risk management as well as investment and operational capital.*

### ***About M.D. Sass***

*M.D. Sass has been a leading name in investment management since 1972. Today the M.D. Sass organization has approximately \$6 billion in assets under management and employs over 100 people. M.D. Sass offers both traditional and alternative investment strategies in the form of private equity funds, hedge funds, and separately managed accounts. Its clients include major corporations, financial institutions, state and local governments, endowment funds, foundations, Taft Hartley funds and high net worth individuals.*

### ***About Macquarie Group***

*Macquarie Group (Macquarie) is a global provider of banking, financial, advisory, investment and funds management services.*

*Macquarie's main business focus is making returns by providing a diversified range of services to clients. Macquarie acts on behalf of institutional, corporate and retail clients and counterparties around the world.*

*Macquarie Group Limited is listed in Australia (ASX:MQG) and is regulated by APRA, the Australian banking regulator, as the owner of Macquarie Bank Limited, an authorized deposit taker. Macquarie also owns a bank in the UK, Macquarie Bank International, which is regulated by the FSA. Macquarie's activities are also subject to scrutiny by other regulatory agencies around the world.*

*Founded in 1969, Macquarie operates in more than 60 office locations in 27 countries. Macquarie employed approximately 12,800 people at 31 January 2009 and had assets under management of \$A242 billion at 31 December 2008.*

*For more information please contact Craig Tashjian or Nancy Obler at 212 710 8034/8033 or via email at [ctashjian@amerracapital.com](mailto:ctashjian@amerracapital.com) or [nobler@amerracapital.com](mailto:nobler@amerracapital.com)*