

**Yann Ballan joins Weinberg Capital Partners  
as Vice-President to develop its real estate activities**

Paris, June 17, 2008

Yann Ballan has been named Vice-President at Weinberg Capital Partners with responsibility for the acquisition and management of real estate assets.

Yann Ballan will work alongside Laurent Halimi, the partner in charge of WCP's real estate activities.

Aged 42, Yann Ballan has 14 years of real estate experience and was at GE Real Estate since 1998. Since 2005, he was in the business development team and contributed to expand the scope of GE Real Estate investments through the creation of a subsidiary in southern France in charge of the non-Paris region portfolio, the purchase of to-be-built properties and single-asset investments. He also contributed to GE's to-be-built properties investments in the Paris region.

Prior to that, he was analyst and deal leader, and later joined the risk management team in charge of the valuation, due diligence, approval and closing process, including the 2004 acquisition of Sophia, a French REIT, listed on the Paris stock exchange.

Prior to joining GE, Yann Ballan was at PAREF Gestion, the sponsor of Pierre 48, a French REIT investing in residential and PAREF, a limited partnership investing in office and residential properties.

***About Weinberg Capital Partners***

*Weinberg Capital Partners is a private equity firm created by Serge Weinberg, the former chairman of the management board of PPR. In addition to Serge Weinberg, the team is made up of four partners, Guillaume d'Angerville, Henri Gagnaire, Philippe Klocanas and Laurent Halimi. Its 420 million euro private equity fund WCP#1 aims to accompany the development of midsized European companies, principally in France and Southern Europe in all sectors except for new technologies and life sciences.*

**PRESS CONTACTS:**

**Brunswick**

Thomas Kamm – Benoît Grange

Tel: +33 1 53 96 83 83

tkamm@brunswickgroup.com

bgrange@brunswickgroup.com