



DREXEL HAMILTON

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **DREXEL HAMILTON APPOINTS JOSEPH L. VALENZA PRESIDENT**

PHILADELPHIA — June 23, 2008 — Drexel Hamilton announced today that Joseph Valenza has been promoted to President of the firm. Mr. Valenza joined the company in April as a managing director. Prior to that, he was the Senior Vice President of Broker/Dealer Services at Lehman Brothers.

“We are very fortunate to have a person of Joe’s capabilities in all aspects of business development and strategic management to lead this firm,” said Lawrence Doll, Drexel Hamilton Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. “His 30 years of experience in the securities industry across a range of businesses and functions will be critical as Drexel Hamilton continues to build its trading and corporate finance services.”

“It’s great to partner with Joe Valenza, with whom I have worked on a number of innovative initiatives over the last ten years. Joe has established a winning reputation among our clients and in our industry,” said Harry Gobora, Chief Operating Officer of Drexel Hamilton. “He has the vision and leadership skills to direct the growth and development of our company in the coming years.”

Mr. Valenza has also held senior management positions at the Boston Options Exchange, Knight Execution Partners, Fidelity Capital Markets, and Aurex Financial Corporation. He has served as a member of the American Stock Exchange’s Retail Advisory Committee, the Chicago Board Options Exchange’s Managing Directors Committee, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange’s Quality of Markets Committee, the Security Traders Association’s Options Committee, and the International Securities Exchange’s Market Maker Advisory Panel. Mr. Valenza served in the United States Coast Guard Reserve and is a member of the Patriot Guard Riders.

Drexel Hamilton, LLC, is a broker-dealer headquartered in Philadelphia. Its team of experienced professionals specializes in the execution and corporate finance requirements of institutional clients. As a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB), Drexel Hamilton has identified with the challenges of recently disabled veterans who return home and have difficulty starting new careers. Drexel Hamilton has a mandate to recruit, hire, and train disabled veterans to become financial services professionals.

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