

For immediate release

## **Affentranger Associates SA advised on Management Buy-out (MBO) of Peter Lang Group**

*Zurich, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Affentranger Associates advised on the sale of Peter Lang Group which is an international academic publisher specialized in Humanities and Social Sciences. With its publishing houses in Switzerland, Germany, USA, UK and Belgium, Peter Lang Group publishes 1'800 new titles each year and has a backlist of more than 55'000 titles.*

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Following a structured sales process, the previous owner, the Peter Lang Children Trust based in the UK, decided to focus on their own field of expertise and to sell 100% of the shares in the company to the senior management and an investor group around Claude Béglé who already acted as Chairman of Peter Lang Group for the last 3 years. The MBO transfers ownership to strongly committed management-investors securing the stability and future of the international publishing group and enabling it to further extend its digital presence, consolidating its strong presence in its traditional markets and expanding into high-growth markets, particularly in the Middle East and in East Asia. The transaction was signed on March 6, 2015; closing is expected before mid-year 2015.

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Affentranger Associates acted as exclusive financial advisor to the previous owner. Following preparation of the process including thorough review of strategy and business plan, Affentranger Associates led and coordinated the entire sales process, including due diligence as well as the transaction structuring and negotiation. The transaction highlights Affentranger Associates' strength in providing comprehensive strategic and M&A advisory and in establishing sustainable entrepreneurial solutions for its clients. As a result of the process, Affentranger Associates built a strong understanding of the key players and the market dynamics in the international academic publishing sector.

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About Affentranger Associates SA

Incorporated in 2002, Affentranger Associates SA (aasa) is a business platform focused on the theme of value creation. As trusted advisor, aasa provides tailored entrepreneurial solutions based on unbiased and independent advice. As principal investor, aasa has the ambition to achieve sustainable long-term returns by investing a combination of labor and capital in companies which are in a transition phase.

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