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### Allinial Global and IAPA International Sign Letter of Intent to Combine Forces

*Littleton, Colo., May 6, 2016*—The U.S.-based Allinial Global, of which WhippleWood CPAs is a member, and the U.K.-based IAPA International (IAPA) announced on May 4, 2016, that the management teams for both associations have signed a Letter of Intent to join forces. According to a press release issued by Allinial Global, this combination would create an entity with 300 members in 79 countries, with annual fee revenue exceeding \$2.6 billion, making it the third-largest association of independent accounting and consulting firms in the world. Terry Snyder, President and CEO of Allinial Global, and Stephen Hamlet, CEO of IAPA, will lead a team of representatives from both associations into further discussions and work through the necessary details. The proposed combination is subject to the execution of a definitive agreement with board and membership approval. If approved, the combination is expected to occur by the end of 2016.

"Over the years, WhippleWood CPAs' membership in Allinial Global has truly enhanced our ability to serve our clients well. The association's growth, firm management, client service, and people resources provide the support that allows our staff to always put our clients' needs first," said Rick Whipple, CEO of WhippleWood CPAs. "The combination of two premier, far-reaching associations will lead to even greater opportunities for WhippleWood CPAs to serve our clients, especially when it comes to meeting their international business needs. We look forward to leveraging the many advantages that this combination will provide."

"It is clear that both associations share a committed focus to delivering an agile and exceptional level of service to their respective members and their clients," said Terry Snyder, President and CEO of Allinial Global. "We share the same vision for continuing to provide members with flexible, strategic, and groundbreaking tools to better serve clients with international accounting needs."

"I see this combination as a win-win for both our outstanding memberships and, in particular, for the clients of our members who rely on valuable and trusted resources around the world," said Stephen Hamlet, CEO of IAPA.

#### **About WhippleWood CPAs**

In business for more than 30 years, WhippleWood CPAs excels at creating value for its clients through innovative solutions and ongoing relationships. WhippleWood CPAs is a member of Allinial Global, an association of independently owned accounting and consulting firms, with offices in North America and throughout the world. This important association gives the firm access to specialized knowledge, expertise, and superior professional education resources—all of which translates to the best in client accounting services.

#### **About Allinial Global**

<u>Allinial Global</u> is a member-based association dedicated to the success of independent accounting and consulting firms. Founded in 1969, this strategic affiliation of legally independent accounting firms has a mission to foster the independence, profitability, and continuous improvement of its members. Allinial Global is based in North America, but offers international support by connecting its member firms to providers and global networks of accounting firms worldwide.

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#### **About IAPA**

IAPA is a global association of independent accounting and business advisory firms that aims to support its members in providing their clients with a diverse range of professional and comprehensive business solutions, regardless of sector or location. The international reach of IAPA member firms offers instant access to first-hand knowledge of local regulations, culture, and customs—removing potential cross-border uncertainties and increasing opportunities for real business development. Established in 1979, IAPA comprises over 200 member firms with offices in some 70 countries. Based on the total fee income of its membership, IAPA ranks in the top 10 of associations of independent accountancy firms and has an annual revenue of over \$1 billion.

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