

## John Studzinski Joins Blackstone

*New York, May 18, 2006:* The Blackstone Group today announced that John Studzinski will be joining the firm later this year as a Senior Managing Director and member of the firm's Executive Committee. His primary role will be to oversee and develop Blackstone's advisory business in the United States and Europe.

Mr. Studzinski joins Blackstone from HSBC where he was co-head of their investment banking and markets divisions and a member of the Group Management Board. He was instrumental in building HSBC's investment banking franchise. A resident in London since 1984, Mr. Studzinski had previously been at Morgan Stanley for twenty two years becoming head of investment banking and deputy chairman.

Stephen A. Schwarzman, Chairman, CEO and Co-Founder of The Blackstone Group said; "We are delighted to have someone of John's extraordinary reputation and stature join Blackstone. His outstanding track record in transatlantic investment banking will be invaluable in accelerating the growth of our advisory business, the cornerstone on which Blackstone was built over twenty years ago."

John Studzinski added; "The opportunity to work in the very different environment of a private partnership, helping to develop what is already an outstandingly successful business, was something I found irresistibly attractive."

### **About The Blackstone Group**

The Blackstone Group, a private investment and advisory firm with offices in New York, Atlanta, Boston, Los Angeles, London, Hamburg, Mumbai, and Paris, was founded in 1985. The firm has raised over \$57 billion for alternative asset investing since inception. The Blackstone Group's core businesses are Private Equity Investing, Private Real Estate Investing, Corporate Debt Investing, Distressed Securities Investing, Marketable Alternative Asset Management, Corporate Advisory, and Restructuring and Reorganization Advisory. [www.blackstone.com](http://www.blackstone.com)

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