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## **KEEFE, BRUYETTE & WOODS HIRES GEORGE KARAMANOS TO HEAD EUROPEAN BANK RESEARCH TEAM**

**New York & London – September 3, 2014** – Keefe, Bruyette & Woods (KBW), a full-service, boutique investment bank and broker-dealer that specializes in the financial services sector, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Stifel Financial Corp. (NYSE: SF), today announced that George Karamanos has rejoined KBW as Managing Director and Head of its European Bank Equity Research Team.

“KBW is committed to growing our presence in Europe and we’re investing the necessary resources to ensure that our clients have access to the best subject-matter experts providing unbiased recommendations to help them navigate the constantly changing financial landscape,” said Thomas B. Michaud, CEO of KBW.

Most recently, Dr. Karamanos worked at Redburn Partners, where he was head of the banks research team, with direct coverage of large capitalization Spanish and French banks. In addition, he was also in charge of strategy product for the banks team. Prior to that, he was a generalist global analyst on the European fund at Lansdowne Partners and before that, was a Senior Vice President at KBW and Fox-Pitt Kelton, focusing on Spanish, Portuguese and Greek banks. He earned a PhD in Computational Simulation and Modelling from Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine in London and a Masters of Engineering in Aeronautical Engineering from Imperial College London, with a post doctorate at Brown University.

Dr. Karamanos is based in KBW’s London office and reports to Fred Cannon, Global Director of Research at KBW. His appointment was effective on August 21, 2014.

“We are pleased to welcome George back to KBW as he will assume a key leadership role advising our clients on European bank investment strategies,” added Mr. Cannon. “His extensive background both inside the banking sector and from the outside looking in provides a unique perspective on the issues facing these companies and adds tremendous value to our clients.”

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods currently provides equity research coverage on 576 financial services companies across North America, Europe and Asia.

The appointment of Dr. Karamanos is another example of KBW's parent company Stifel Financial's recent effort to bolster its European operations with senior hires at KBW as well as the purchase of Oriel Securities, a London-based stockbroking and investment banking firm, in May of this year.

### **About KBW**

KBW LLC, a Stifel company, operates in the U.S. and Europe through its broker dealer subsidiaries, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. and Stifel Nicolaus Europe Limited ("SNEL"), also trading as Keefe, Bruyette & Woods Europe ("KBW Europe"). Over the years, KBW has established itself as a leading independent authority in the banking, insurance, brokerage, asset management, mortgage banking and specialty finance sectors. Founded in 1962, the firm maintains industry-leading positions in the areas of research, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions as well as sales and trading in equities securities of financial services companies.

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