

Speer & Associates, Inc. Announces Promotions of Two Professionals

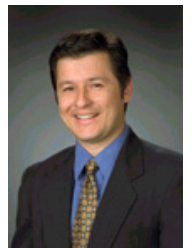
Firm continues to broaden international reach

ATLANTA, Georgia, January 25, 2008: Speer & Associates, Inc. (S&A), a leading financial services consulting firm, announced the promotions of **Reuben E. Clarson, Jr.** to Executive Vice President and **César A. Ordóñez** to Senior Consultant. Richard N. Speer, Jr., CEO, said, "The promotions recognize the significant experience these professionals have brought to numerous client engagements and to the success of S&A."

Mr. Clarson, who joined S&A in 1999, has worked with major international clients to define corporate strategy, identify and value attractive investment opportunities, and structure financial transactions. Mr. Clarson has also advised leading transaction-processing companies in the development of financial forecasts, pricing models, and functional cost analyses. In addition to a strong background in corporate finance, he has worked extensively in retail channel management, developing a comprehensive delivery system planning model. Mr. Clarson received an M.B.A. from the Leonard N. Stern School of Business at New York University and is a member of the CFA Institute.



Mr. Ordóñez joined S&A in 2004 and has continuing responsibilities for consulting projects for U.S. and international S&A clients, focusing on financial and strategic analysis, business line assessment, product profitability, and process improvement activities. He has worked on a wide range of engagements in the retail banking, credit card and transaction processing industries. He has also assisted with market assessment and competitive analysis, product research, operations reviews, customer segmentation, and delivery channel optimization. Mr. Ordóñez earned an M.B.A. from the American Graduate School of International Management, Thunderbird.



Mr. Les Riedl, President of S&A, commented, "Our consulting professionals are uniquely qualified, leveraging real-world experience with the firm's proven pragmatic approach to consulting – a winning combination for 28 years."

About Speer & Associates, Inc.

S&A's consulting practice has broadened considerably over its 28-year history of partnership with the financial services industry. Today, the firm supports its clients worldwide with strategic planning and advisory services in virtually all aspects of financial services and support technology.

Speer & Associates, Inc. is headquartered at 2400 Lakeview Parkway, Suite 125, Alpharetta, GA 30004