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Friday, November 14, 2008

Fairport, NY (November 14, 2008) - First American announced that the company's CEO, William Verhelle, presented at the 15th Annual AELA Leasing & Equipment Finance Conference in Sydney, Australia. The Australian Equipment Lessors Association (AELA) is Australia's national association for the equipment leasing and finance industry. The association's members are responsible for more than 90% of leasing activity in Australia. As the 2008 Chairman of the Equipment Leasing and Finance Association (ELFA), Verhelle's address provided an overview of the 2008 U.S. equipment finance marketplace.

The conference included two international addresses covering the U.S. and European markets. Verhelle delivered the U.S. address, followed by an overview of the U.K and European equipment finance market given by Alun Richards, principal of The Alta Group. Other sessions at the conference included economic and financial updates, leasing statistics, fraud prevention, tax developments, and a regulatory overview.

The Annual AELA Leasing & Equipment Finance Conference, which took place on November 13, 2008 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney, was attended by industry leaders and executives from across Australia. It provided participants valuable information about strategic and economic trends in worldwide equipment leasing and finance markets.