News release

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## Douglas Burnham - new Assurance Leader at Ernst & Young

*Prague, 1 June 2011 –* **Douglas Burnham has been appointed as the Assurance Leader of Ernst & Young in the Czech Republic and for other countries in the Central European region, comprising of Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia. In his new position he will focus on the further growth of Ernst & Young´s market position.**

Douglas Burnham, who is now based in Prague, began his career in London and first supported clients in the Czech Republic in 1992, mainly in the financial services sector. Since then he has obtained extensive experience throughout Central and Eastern Europe providing assurance services to international and domestic clients. Previously he acted as regional leader for banking and insurance sector. Douglas is a graduate of the University of Southampton and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). He is married with three sons.

Douglas Burnham comments: *”We have achieved a lot over the last few years and Ernst & Young has the strongest reputation for audit services in the market. Our firm has a highly integrated structure which differentiates it and which resonates strongly in the market. In my new role I will focus on building on our structural advantage in order to respond to client demands for more complex services, so that Ernst & Young’s market position can further expand.“*

Magdalena Souček, Country Managing Partner of Ernst & Young added: *”Globally, Ernst & Young won some well-known audit clients over the past couple of years, many of whom have cited our globalized structure and focus on traditional services as a key factor in their decision to appoint us. I am convinced that Doug will continue in the successful development of our audit base in the region.”*

The Ernst & Young Assurance practice in the Czech Republic comprises around 200 professionals, almost all of whom are statutory auditors or certified chartered accountants.

Ernst & Young in the Czech Republic provides services to 20 of the Czech top 30 companies and works with all five largest banks.

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