



Political Risk Services
International Country Risk Guide

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2010

Canadian Firm Acquires PRS

Gavea Emerging Markets Corporation has just purchased The PRS Group, Inc. (PRS). The principal of the Vancouver, BC-based firm is Christopher McKee, Ph.D., who plans to maintain PRS' operations at its East Syracuse, New York, offices.

Founded in 1979 by two Syracuse University professors (William D. Coplin and Michael K. O'Leary), PRS has developed an excellent reputation worldwide for the quality of its country risk forecasts and analyses for international business.

The company consists of two divisions: *Political Risk Services* and *International Country Risk Guide*. The mix of publications makes PRS a high quality provider of essential information for international business. Collectively, PRS publications monitor and analyze the political, economic, and financial risks to business in 160 countries.

Since 1999, the company has been owned by its president, Mary Lou Walsh, and William E. Oakley of Wilmington, N.C. Walsh started working at PRS in 1983 as an editor and led a 1999 management buyout from PRS' parent in the United Kingdom. She will remain at the company as its president.

At a meeting with PRS employees to announce the news, McKee stated, "Despite the ownership change and the introduction of some new products, everything will stay the same operationally, so our clients worldwide can expect a continuing high level of quality and expertise from PRS." More than 80% of the staff has worked at PRS for 10 years or more, and half have been together for more than 20 years.

The PRS Group provides country intelligence to governments, universities, investors, researchers, multinationals, exporters, international banks, and thousands of smaller companies worldwide doing business outside their own national borders. Details about all of its publications are available at PRS' website: www.prsgroup.com.

For a catalog of PRS products and services, contact Patti Davis at (315) 431-0511 x312, or send her an e-mail, pdavis@prsgroup.com.

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