

NEWS RELEASE



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NIRI-Chicago 2017 Investor Relations Workshop Focuses on 'Navigating Uncharted Waters'

Keynote on Shareholder Activism by Scott Ostfeld of JANA Partners

CHICAGO, August 1, 2017 – The Chicago Chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) will hold its annual Investor Relations (IR) Workshop on Friday, September 15 at the Metropolitan Club, Willis Tower, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago.

"It's no exaggeration to say that public companies are 'Navigating Uncharted Waters' today. Often, there's no map as we sail the turbulent seas of market, geopolitical and regulatory uncertainty and navigate conflicting demands from activist shareholders and other stakeholders," said Leslie H. Kratcoski, IRC, IR Workshop chair. "Our annual workshop will update investor relations officers and their financial, legal and communications colleagues about trends that affect public companies' decisions and communications. We're especially pleased to welcome breakfast keynote speaker Scott Ostfeld of JANA Partners, who will provide a glimpse into an activist's playbook."

In a fireside chat, Ostfeld will share his views of the current shareholder activism landscape and JANA Partners' approach to activism, including how fundamental value analysis can identify companies with one or more specific catalysts to unlock value. As co-portfolio manager of JANA Partners' Strategic Investments Fund, Ostfeld is responsible for special situations investments, including active shareholder engagement. Before joining JANA in 2006, Ostfeld was a member of GSC Partners' distressed debt private equity group, which focused on acquiring companies through the bankruptcy restructuring process and enhancing value as an active equity owner. Ostfeld holds J.D., MBA and bachelor's degrees from Columbia University.

The 2017 IR Workshop also will feature informative panel discussions, including:

- ***Eye of the Storm: The Dynamics of Activism Defense.*** Activism strategies are becoming more complex and a wider set of actors are launching campaigns. Companies must adapt and prepare in this dynamic environment. The IR Workshop will help attendees prepare for and respond to an activist at every step of the campaign by using case studies to share lessons learned, best practices and thoughts on how a company can respond with agility and speed if it becomes a target.
- ***Navigating the Currents of an IR Career.*** IR professionals today must steer through profound changes within the profession. Our panel of recruiters and IROs will share their advice on how best to navigate your career, differentiate yourself with professional designations and experiences (such as dual roles), compensation expectations and career

resources. Attendees will gain career planning knowledge to help navigate to new jobs, become more indispensable in their current roles and/or advance to the next level.

- ***Steering Through Capital Market Whirlpools.*** Capital markets are evolving at an ever-increasing pace. Keeping up with the changes and understanding key market metrics can help attendees better understand trading in their companies' stocks and more effectively inform senior management. We'll cover trends such as volatility, black box trading, the passive investing onslaught and Big Data techniques for buying/selling. We'll also showcase one IRO's monitoring program for insights on steering through the inevitable market whirlpools ahead.

Additional information and registration information can be found on the NIRI-Chicago [2017 IR Workshop](#) webpage.

2017 IR Workshop Sponsors and Exhibitors

NIRI-Chicago thanks the following sponsors and exhibitors: Addison, Bell Litho, Broadridge, Business Wire, CamberView Partners, Ipreo, Meetyl, ModernIR, Nasdaq, NYSE, Q4 Inc., UBS and Wells Fargo Shareowner Services.

About NIRI-Chicago

The Chicago chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) provides professional development and networking opportunities to practitioners of investor relations, a strategic management responsibility that integrates finance, communication, marketing and securities law compliance. For more information, visit www.niri-chicago.org.

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