



DEFINING THE FUTURE OF RETIREMENT

The Retirement Income Industry Association Announces Gold Sponsors for Upcoming 2009 Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

Current Thinking and Insight from Allianz and Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management Executives to be Featured

Boston, MA (September 28, 2009). The [Retirement Income Industry Association's](#) (RIIA) Gold Sponsors for the 2009 Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner are Allianz and Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management, announces Francois Gadenne, RIIA's Chairman and Executive Director.

"What an honor it is to welcome two highly recognized and influential organizations as the Gold Sponsors of our annual meeting this year," says Gadenne. "Everyone who attends will have the opportunity to hear from key executives at these companies about their current views and outlooks on the [retirement income industry](#). This is especially relevant and important given the turmoil of our country's economy and financial markets over the past year."

Bruce Wolfe, Managing Director for Allianz, and Mark Benson, Managing Director and Head of Financial Solutions Advisors and Practice Management Development Management for Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management, will join [noted authors](#), Sam Khoury, a hands-on turnaround and crisis-management specialist, and Howard Bloom, a scientist in the field of mass behavior and the study of cultural convolutions, as keynote speakers. In addition, an industry [Research Panel](#) facilitated by Elvin Turner, [RIIA Board Member](#) and Managing Director of Turner Consulting LLC, will present the latest research offerings and findings in the industry.

To be held on October 5-6, 2009 at the Boston Hyatt Harborside, the [RIIA Annual Meeting](#) is a unique venue offering a "View Across the Silos" of the retirement income and financial services industry to members and non-members alike. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact Deborah Burkholder at 617.342.7390, or email staff@riia-usa.org for the sponsorship details.

Annual Meeting attendees also have the unique opportunity to attend the RIIA Awards Dinner, a high profile event where leaders in communications and advertising are recognized for their achievements by RIIA's Media Sponsors, who are among the industry's most well-read, respected financial services publications. The award categories include:

- Award for [Achievement in Applied Retirement Research](#), *Research Magazine*
- Retail Communications Awards, *InvestmentNews*
- Defined Contribution Communications Awards, *PLANSPONSOR*
- Best Advertising Awards, *InvestmentWires*

About the Retirement Income Industry Association (www.riia-usa.org)

RIIA's mission as a national not-for-profit organization is to bring the retirement income industry together with a "View Across Silos" to develop the products,

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processes and advisory services Americans need to create a secure retirement. Because RIIA members span the entire industry, they create a forum for sharing the freshest outlooks, the most modern thinking, the latest research and the newest product development within the realm of retirement income. This unique view provides investors and advisors with unbiased perspectives on key retirement income issues.

Media Contact: Susan Chanley, sbumsteadchanley@comcast.net, 781-587-0115

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