

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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### ***Corporate Express Joins European Supplier Diversity Business Forum*** *Corporate Express enhances its supplier diversity programme with new partnership*

**Birmingham, England – 25 May 2006** – Corporate Express Ltd., a Buhrmann company (AEX:BUHR and NYSE: BUH), one of the world’s largest business-to-business suppliers of essential office, facilities and computer products and services, today announced its membership in the European Supplier Diversity Business Forum.

The European Supplier Diversity Business Forum is a business-led forum that promotes supplier diversity in Europe. The goal of this Forum is to champion the business case for the inclusion of diverse suppliers within the UK, and the rest of Europe, by working in partnership with our business and public organisations.

“We’re delighted to have a progressive company like Corporate Express as a Forum member,” said Beth Ginsburg, Programme Director of the Forum. “Corporate Express brings a unique supplier perspective to the Forum and their continuous commitment to supplier diversity is a model for all organisations.”

Corporate Express’ Supplier Diversity Programme expands opportunities for historically underutilized vendors to supply products and services to Corporate Express customers with supplier diversity purchasing objectives. Through the programme, customers benefit from solutions that leverage Corporate Express’ distribution network, proprietary technology, and volume buying power to meet even the most aggressive diversity purchasing goals.

“Being part of this Forum is a natural step in enhancing our existing supplier diversity programme,” said Brian Macaluso, Managing Director, of Corporate Express UK. “Working with other forward-looking organisations enables us to pool knowledge and share ideas and best practices on supplier diversity in Europe.”

#### **About Corporate Express**

Corporate Express Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Buhrmann, NV (AEX: BUHR; NYSE: BUH), an international business services and distribution group. Corporate Express’ product offering includes office products, facility supplies, business furniture,

printed forms, IT products, and other similar products. Corporate Express has operations in 18 countries in Europe, North America and Australia / New Zealand. Corporate Express' UK operations have 15 locations, including two distribution centres, and the company employs approximately 550 people. The Company's website address is [www.CorporateExpress.co.uk](http://www.CorporateExpress.co.uk).

### **About European Supplier Diversity Business Forum**

The European Supplier Diversity Business Forum is a pioneering initiative that promotes Supplier Diversity in Europe. Supplier Diversity is concerned with ensuring that under-represented businesses, including but not limited to companies owned by ethnic minorities, women and disabled people, have the same opportunities to compete for the supply of goods and services to multi-national companies as other suppliers. It is operating pilots in five European countries including France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK.

The Forum is made up of a group of multi-national corporations including founding members: Bristol Myers Squibb, Capital Consulting, Cisco Systems, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs International, Hewlett Packard, IBM, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Spring Group, Weil Gotshal and Manges and Williams Lea. For more information, go to [www.europeansupplierdiversity.com](http://www.europeansupplierdiversity.com).