



Happy New Year! We hope 2010 was a productive and successful year for you and your firms. We're happy to report this past year was another productive and successful one for the Credit Roundtable. Thank you to our Advisory Board members, as well as other members that have actively supported our efforts. Much progress has been made on several key initiatives; with your help and support (as well as some necessary focus from Washington regulators), we are confident we'll be able to move forward on those initiatives and others.

Since its formation in 2007, the Credit Roundtable has focused on preserving and enhancing bondholder rights, through advocacy, education, and action. These efforts, taken on behalf of our clients, are paying real dividends. The Credit Roundtable has become a well known and respected organization to which regulators are reaching out for our thoughts and input on proposed rules and regulations. Given the amount of financial reform-driven rule making that will take place in 2011 (and beyond)—e.g. Dodd-Frank, Basel III, European Union, the U.K. FSA--the Credit Roundtable has a great opportunity to help shape the outcome of those rules that may affect the credit markets, our standing as bond investors, and, ultimately, our clients. The larger our membership, and the more engaged we are, the more effective and successful we can be.

## **2010 Recap**

Highlights of the past year include the following:

- An SEC meeting on the New Issue market (disclosure, timing) that was a continuation of a dialogue we started in 2009. We met with Meredith Cross, director of the Division of Corporation Finance, with whom we've developed a good working relationship, and her staff. The outcome of that meeting was a planned roundtable with the buy-side, sell-side, and SEC to develop a "best practices" solution. Due to the pressures of Dodd-Frank rule making, that roundtable has been pushed out to 2011.
- A second SEC meeting on the Debt Tender and Consent Solicitation process. This was initiated by the head of the Office of Mergers and Acquisitions within the Division of Corporation Finance, who reached out to the Credit Roundtable for our opinion and invited us down to speak with them. Since this was one of the three key priorities identified by the Credit Roundtable at its formation, we were thrilled to get the call.
- Two successful Credit Roundtable meetings— one in Washington, DC in the Spring and a Fall meeting in Chicago. Agenda items included: meeting with Meredith Cross of the SEC, a panel on Creditor Committees in Bankruptcy, Evaluating Sovereign Risk, rule changes on Debt Exchange offers, LBO/Private Equity panel, BofA/ML Credit Strategist, Future of Rating Agencies panel, Future of Banking regulation, Covenant trends and challenges
- Monthly calls with timely topics such as "Bail-in" bonds vs. Contingent Capital securities

## **2011 Goals and Plans**

Plans thus far for the coming year include:

- Pushing forward on our initiatives before the SEC on the New Issue/Underwriting and Distribution process and the Debt Tender and Consent Solicitation process

**Institutional Investor**

225 Park Avenue South, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10003, Tel: (212) 224-3074, Fax: (212) 224-3838



# The Credit Roundtable

In association with the Fixed Income Forum

- Reviewing our White Paper on Model Covenants for possible revisions and enhancements to improve its adoption and effectiveness
- Conducting successful Fall and Spring Credit Roundtable meetings
- Identifying future key initiatives for the group
- Holding value-adding monthly conference calls for members

The Advisory Board of the Credit Roundtable appreciates your support and involvement. We want to reiterate the importance of having a large, engaged membership. As a volunteer organization, we are doing this on behalf of our firms, and our clients, so please be active and offer to help—give us ideas, agenda items for monthly calls and roundtable meetings, host a monthly call, take the lead on writing a Credit Roundtable letter to regulators, etc. Please send any ideas to Lyn Perlmuth, the Fixed Income Forum director ([lperlmuth@iimemberships.com](mailto:lperlmuth@iimemberships.com), 212 224 3074), and we will be happy to speak with you about them.

Thank you, and here's to a productive and successful 2011.

Co-leaders

Dana Emery  
Dodge & Cox

Chris Gootkind  
Loomis Sayles

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