

# Press Release

## Peak Partners launches a new specialized fund of hedge funds MONT BLANC SELECT

Leading specialist in alternative investment solutions Peak Partners is launching a new fund of hedge funds specialized in Asset Based Lending and other Collateralized Strategies on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2006.

Mont Blanc Select invests in specialized hedge funds focusing in collateralized and secured structures in which the borrower pledges particularly valuable assets as collateral. The core advantage of these strategies is the fact they are extremely insensitive to secondary market risk.

Ernesto Prado, Chief Investment Officer of Peak Partners and Portfolio Manager of the fund says:

“We have been successfully investing in Asset Based Lending and other collateralized hedge fund strategies for more than three years now. The investments have returned extremely stable performances with very low volatility. More important, results have consistently shown negative correlation with other hedge funds strategies. However, investing in these strategies requires both strong knowledge and stringent due diligence paired with a deep understanding of the underlying risk factors. “

Mont Blanc Select is the first Luxemburg Part II SICAV specialized in these strategies. The objectives of the Fund which is denominated in US dollars, Euro and Swiss francs are an annualized return of 8% to 12% after fees with very low average volatility and very low to negative correlation to both traditional asset classes and others alternatives strategies. The portfolio will be highly diversified across different non-correlated ABL and Collateralized Strategies.

About Peak Partners:

Peak Partners SA is a Geneva, Switzerland based fund manager focusing on specialized funds of hedge funds for sophisticated institutional investors. The company employs extremely experienced team of investment specialists and manages the Mont Blanc family of funds as well as a limited number of dedicated specialized funds of hedge funds for selected institutional investors.

For more information please visit: [www.peakpartners.com](http://www.peakpartners.com)


About Ernesto Prado:

Before joining Peak Partners, Ernesto Prado was an Executive Director, member of the extended management team responsible for all Fixed Income, Macro and

Issued by:  
Peak Partners S.A.  
80 Rue du Rhône  
CH-1204 Geneva, Switzerland  
[www.peakpartners.com](http://www.peakpartners.com)  
Tel: +41 22 818 02 20  
Fax: +41 22 818 02 28

For further information contact:  
Louis Zanolin  
Tel: +41 22 818 02 24  
[zanolin@peakpartners.com](mailto:zanolin@peakpartners.com)  
This Press Release can be  
downloaded from [www.peakpartners.com](http://www.peakpartners.com)





Credit exposures at Harcourt Investment Consulting in Zurich. Prior to that, Ernesto worked at Salomon Brothers in New York and London in the Fixed Income derivatives group, covering the Arbitrage Group, hedge funds and Wall Street's proprietary desks. In 1998 he restructured Salomon's LTCM derivative portfolio in extremely volatile conditions. After the spin-off of Salomon's arbitrage group he moved to the Structured Credit Trading team where he traded structured credit derivatives. He was responsible for Equity-Linked book in the fixed income trading floor, trading correlation and convertible arbitrage. Prior to Salomon he worked in the program trading group of Fidelity Investments in Boston. He started his financial career in the 80's at Serfin Securities, the then largest broker in Latin America in New York where he became director in 1995. Ernesto obtained an MBA from the Stern School of Business in New York, a BS in Applied Mathematics and Numerical computing from New York University and in Mathematics from the Université d'Aix-Marseille.

Issued by:  
Peak Partners S.A.  
80 Rue du Rhône  
CH-1204 Geneva, Switzerland  
[www.peakpartners.com](http://www.peakpartners.com)  
Tel: +41 22 818 02 20  
Fax: +41 22 818 02 28

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Tel: +41 22 818 02 24  
[zanolin@peakpartners.com](mailto:zanolin@peakpartners.com)  
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