

**AVCJ Asian Private Equity
& Venture Forum
July 8, 2008 – New York
“Asian Private Equity:
continued growth and opportunity?”**

Moderator:

**Rodney Muse, Founder Partner
NAVIS CAPITAL PARTNERS**

Panelists:

Harjit Bhatia, Chairman, Private Equity Asia

CREDIT SUISSE

Michael Cook, CEO

MACQUARIE CAPITAL ALLIANCE GROUP

Joseph W. Ferrigno III, Managing Partner

ASIA MEZZANINE CAPITAL GROUP

Benjamin Jenkins, Sr. Managing Director

THE BLACKSTONE GROUP

Thomas Quinn, Managing Principal

THE JORDAN COMPANY



- **Independent Specialist Mezzanine Fund Manager:**
Team composed of credit-oriented ex-bankers, private equity practitioners, businessmen and management consultants. Currently manage the **Asia Strategic Capital Fund, L.P.**, a pan-Asian direct investment fund providing mezzanine/hybrid-type capital.

- **Strategic Financial Partner for Medium- sized Companies and PE firms:**
Help fund promising companies undergoing major strategic developments: very large capital expenditure programs/projects, mergers, acquisitions, restructurings, recapitalizations and buyouts with longer-term non-controlling capital

- **Pioneers in the Asian Mezzanine Markets:**
Certain senior members founded and managed the first mezzanine fund for Asia, the US\$246 million Asian Infrastructure Mezzanine Capital Fund, sponsored by Prudential Financial and the Asian Development Bank.

- **Active Investor:**
While the “Credit Crunch “has reduced availability of most forms of capital, AMCG is actively investing mezzanine capital today in promising companies throughout Asia.

Strategic Partners:



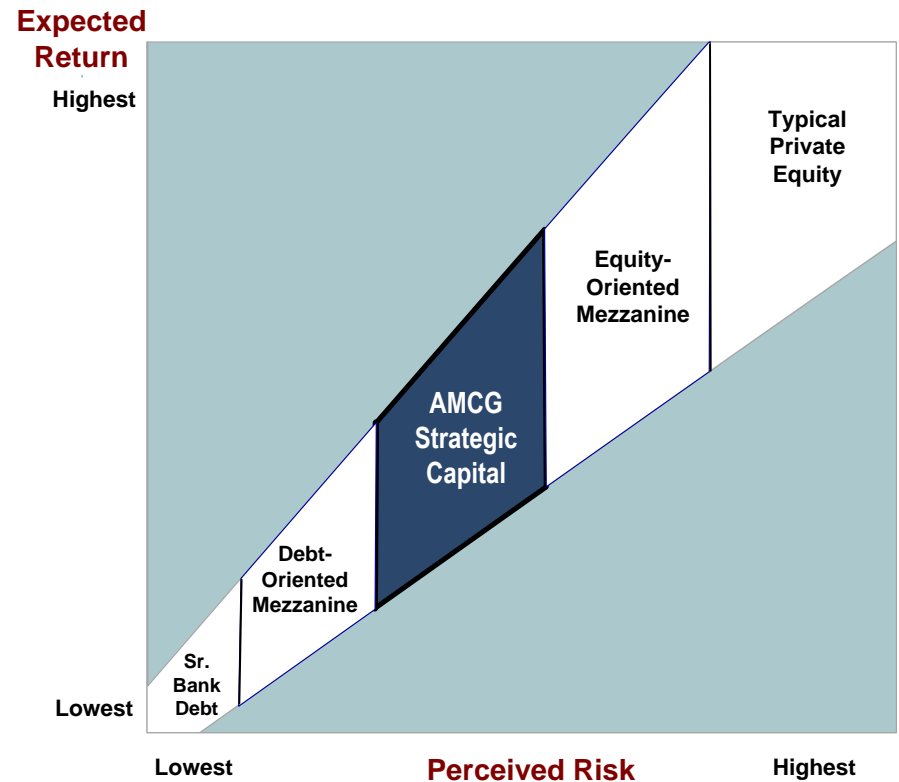


- **Structural Characteristics**

- > Layer of capital between senior debt and equity with debt and equity components, typically subordinated debt with equity warrants
- > Amortization/redemption
- > Equity participations via warrants, options and other forms
- > Covenants protections and creditor rights

- **Costs**

- > Current cash interest
- > PIK interest
- > Equity participations



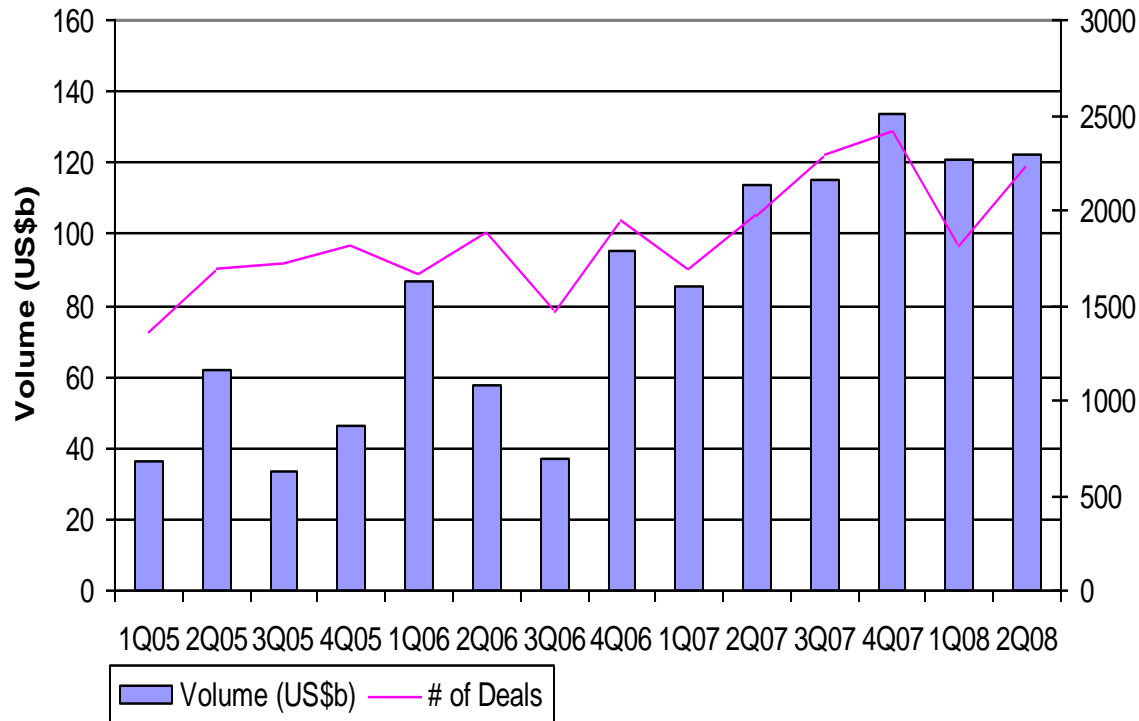


➤ **Economics 101** (*“It’s the Economy, Stupid”*)

- ✓ **Stronger Macro Conditions:** GDP and populations growth rates higher
- ✓ **Productivity Growth Potential:** Has a much longer way to go, e.g. telecommunications, computer and software applications
- ✓ **Economic Convergence Theory:** Asia catches up to the developed world at a rate that exceeds the developed world’s growth rate
- ✓ **Country Risk Mitigants:** Huge financial reserves have been accumulated vs. over-indebted national systems and large obligations to others
- ✓ **Main PE Investment Opportunity Drivers :**
 - Huge growth in infrastructure, infrastructure-related and consumer businesses.
 - Major established trend toward more domestic, intra-regional and global mergers and acquisitions
- ✓ **Value of “Intelligent Capital” is High:** Rewards from improvements in business management and technology transfers can be huge
- ✓ **Decoupling is a Myth:** “Contagion” is becoming “congruence”



Asia (ex-Japan) Announced M&A by Quarter



Source: Thomason Reuters

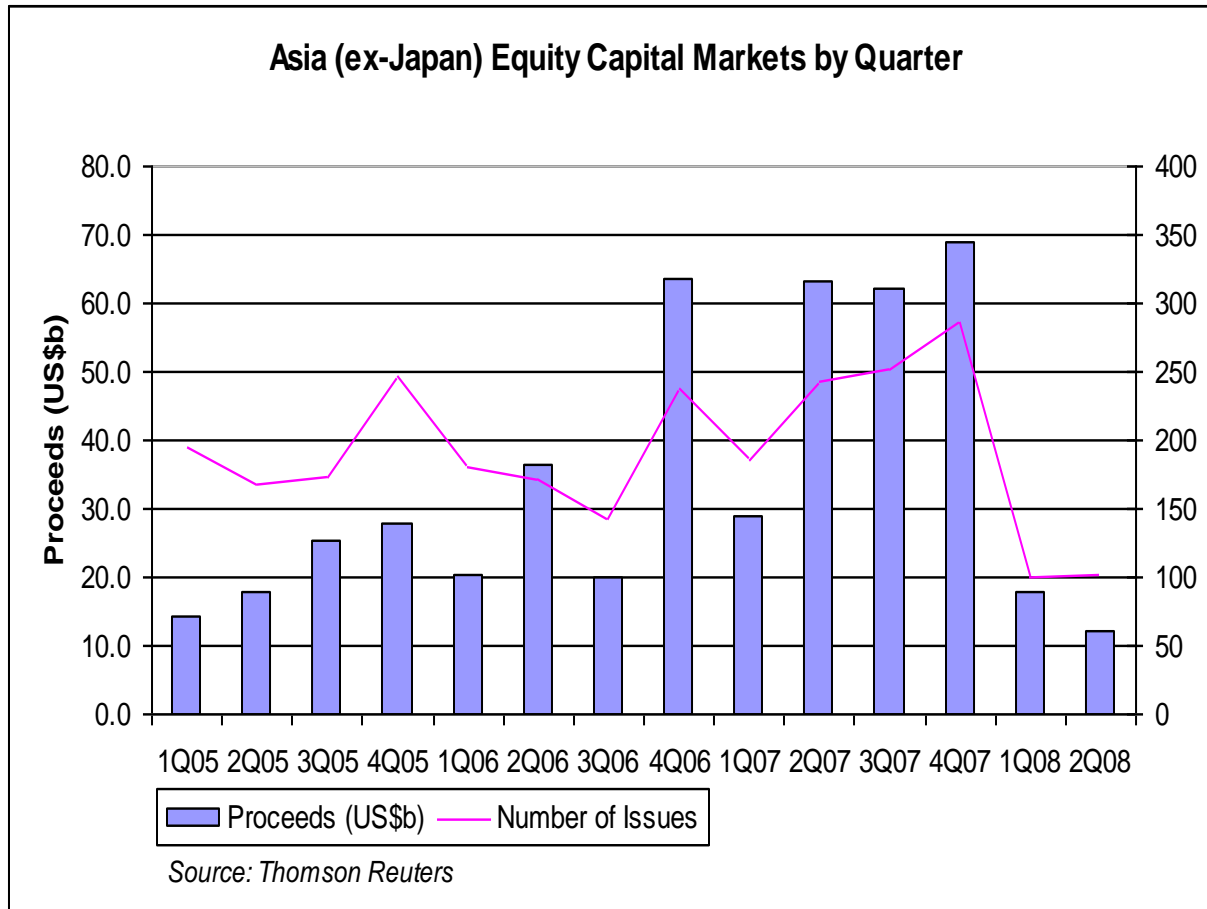
Key messages:

- Asian M&A activity remains robust, partly leading to the strong syndicated loan markets.
- Activity remains near record levels – announced volume during the first half of 2008 was only slightly less than the volume for the whole year of 2006.



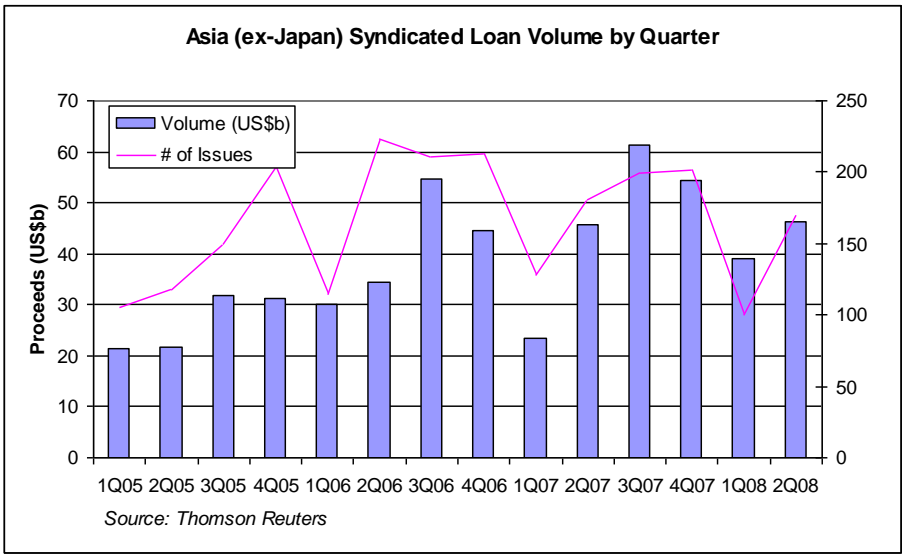
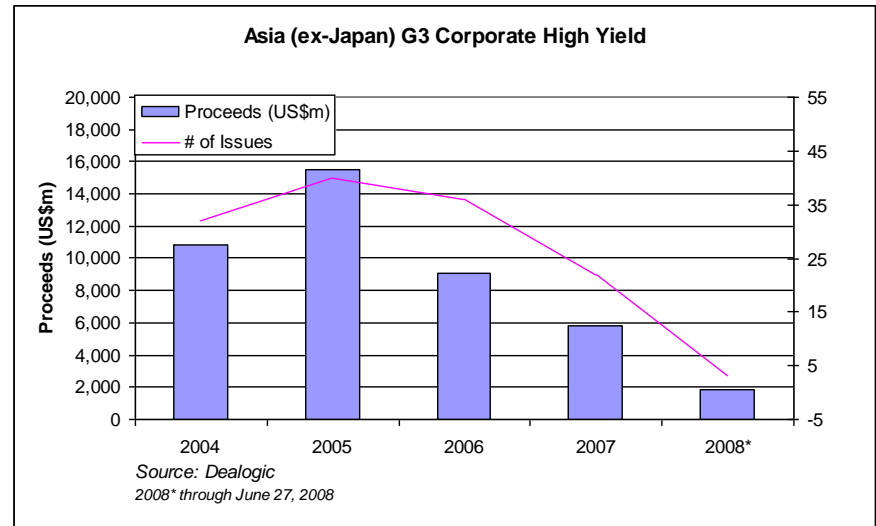
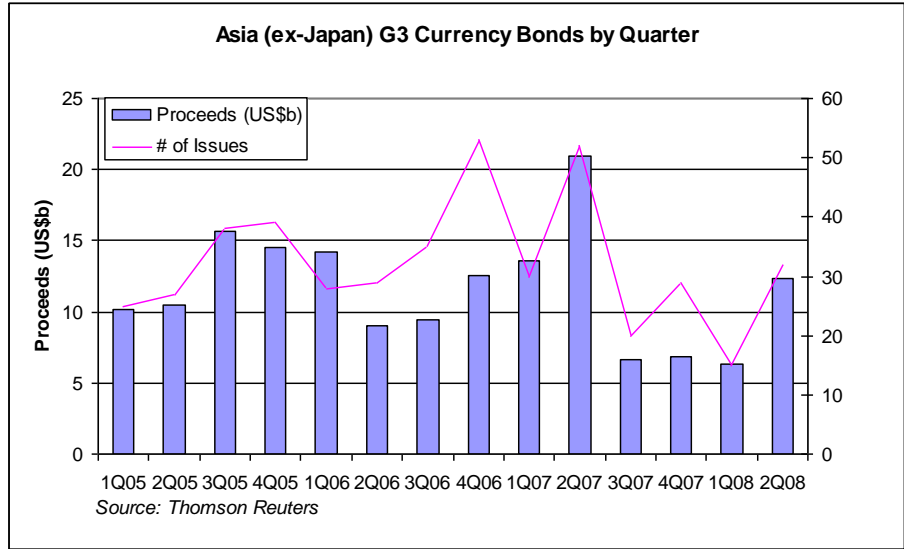
➤ **Finance 101 (“No Nobel Prize Winners Needed or Wanted”)**

- ✓ **Less Financial Risk:** Financing structures employ lower leverage
- ✓ **Limited Alchemy:** Little use of the CDO market
- ✓ **Higher Reinvestment Rate:** Retained earnings reinvestment is higher
- ✓ **Reasonable Valuations:** Significant equity and debt market corrections occurring
- ✓ **Limited Equity Market Dependency:** Large segment of the private equity market is not dependent of the stock market (ex-Japan)
- ✓ **High Equity Market Volatility:** Public equity market volatility is high and issuance volumes highly sensitive to sentiment
- ✓ **Decoupling is a Myth** – “Contagion” is becoming “congruence”



Key Points:

- Proceeds volumes have declined dramatically during the first half of 2008 with volumes off by 2/3 vs. the record levels of 2007.
- Negative trends accelerated during Q2 2008 with volumes off by ~80%.
- Several new listings have been pulled or postponed in recent weeks.



Key Points:

- Issuance in the debt markets has been mixed with a decline by just less than half in the bond market but increased borrowings in the syndicated loan markets, somewhat offsetting declines in other markets.
- High yield market issuance remains relatively light, well off 2005 levels.
- Pricing trends in Asian debt markets have been negative with significant increases in spreads across all three markets.



- “Neither a borrower nor a lender be; for loan oft loses both itself and friend.”

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*

- “If you would know the value of money, go and try to borrow some; for he that goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing.”

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, *Poor Richard's Almanac*

- “Home life ceases to be free and beautiful as soon as it is founded on borrowing and debt.”

HENRIK IBSEN, *A Doll's House*



➤ **Outlooks for PE Buyout, Growth, and Distressed Investing Options**

- **Buyouts:** Returns in Asia not so adversely affected by lower leverage and longer exit times
- **Growth:** Opportunities continue to be more highly attractive than public equities
- **Investment Thesis - China:** Intact: continuing massive urbanization, steady improvements in infrastructure and in the implementation of reforms (enterprise, financial and legal systems) and high government stability = Domestic Growth & Global Buyouts.
- **Investment Thesis - Japan:** Emerging slowly but surely: large size and huge unlocked values in businesses due to significant corporate governance reforms stimulated by activist investors = Domestic & Global Buyouts; Domestic Growth
- **Investment Thesis – India:** Not currently as attractive as China. **P/Vision vs. P/Earnings** = Only OK if the great visions can be implemented near term.....which they cannot
- **Investment Thesis – ASEAN:** Countries selectively attractive = Domestic and Regional Buyouts, Domestic Growth and Distressed
- **Developed World Distressed:** Currently may be more attractive than in Asia, because valuation reductions have been much greater = upside may be much higher.



Joseph W. Ferrigno III
Managing Partner
Asia Mezzanine Capital Group
Hong Kong
Tel. 852 9454 8665
joseph.ferrigno@asiamezzanine.com
