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CHARLES RIVER ASSOCIATES (CRA) ANNOUNCES SECOND QUARTER 2014 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Strong Contributions Across Portfolio Drive Revenue and Profitability Growth

BOSTON, July 24, 2014 – <u>Charles River Associates</u> (NASDAQ: CRAI), a worldwide leader in providing <u>economic, financial, and management consulting services</u>, today announced financial results for the fiscal second quarter ended June 28, 2014.

Revenue for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 increased to \$78.2 million, compared with \$65.2 million for the fiscal second quarter ended June 29, 2013. Non-GAAP revenue for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 increased to \$76.9 million, compared with \$64.1 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2013.

Net income for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 was \$3.2 million, or \$0.32 per diluted share, compared with \$1.4 million, or \$0.14 per diluted share, for the second quarter of fiscal 2013. Non-GAAP net income for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 was \$3.2 million, or \$0.32 per diluted share, compared with \$1.5 million, or \$0.15 per diluted share, for the second quarter of fiscal 2013. GAAP and non-GAAP net income and earnings per share for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 reflect a non-cash tax expense of \$750,000, or \$0.07 and \$0.08 per diluted share, respectively, relating to the correction of an error in the valuation of deferred tax assets in CRA's historical financial statements, which is unrelated to current operations.

Adjusted EBITDA for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 was \$12.9 million, or 16.5% of revenue, compared with \$8.9 million, or 13.6% of revenue, for the second quarter of fiscal 2013. On a non-GAAP basis, the Adjusted EBITDA for the second quarter of fiscal 2014 was \$12.9 million, or 16.8% of revenue, compared with \$9.0 million, or 14.0% of revenue, for the second quarter of fiscal 2013.

A complete reconciliation between revenue, net income and net income per diluted share, and the calculation of Adjusted EBITDA, on a GAAP and non-GAAP basis, for the second quarters of

fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2013, and the year to date periods ended as of the end of these quarters, are provided in the financial tables at the end of this release.

Management Comments

"Our second quarter fiscal 2014 results reflect strong contributions from across our portfolio," said <u>Paul Maleh</u>, CRA's President and Chief Executive Officer. "On a non-GAAP basis, our portfolio delivered 20.0% revenue growth compared with a weak second quarter last year, and 2.4% revenue growth compared with a strong sequential first quarter."

"During the second quarter, the performances of our Litigation & Regulatory and Management Consulting businesses were led by solid contributions in many practices. For example, the Antitrust & Competition Economics practice and Marakon worked on several large engagements and delivered strong results, both sequentially and year-over-year. Companywide utilization for the quarter was 78%, consistent with the sequential first quarter and up significantly from the 67% in the same period last year."

"Non-GAAP SG&A expenses for the second quarter of fiscal 2014, after adjusting for commissions to non-employee experts of \$2.7 million, decreased to 18.0% of revenue, compared with 19.6% of revenue in the second quarter last year. The decrease in non-GAAP SG&A as a percentage of revenue was primarily due to our ability to continue leveraging our cost structure during revenue growth."

"As of June 28, 2014, cash and cash equivalents were \$27.6 million, down from \$32.5 million at the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2014. The repurchase of 157,000 shares of our common stock, the payment of 2013 bonuses, and an increase of eight days in our DSO were the principal factors driving the reduction in the cash balance."

Outlook

"Our portfolio quality is high, project lead flow is strong, and project conversion rates continue to improve. CRA's financial position is healthy, and we expect to actively pursue new hires and select acquisitions that support our core offerings. Through a balanced approach of organic investments and strategic acquisitions, and assuming a stable economy, our long-term goal is to profitably deliver top-line growth in the mid-to-high single digits on an annualized basis," concluded Maleh.

Conference Call Information and Prepared CFO Remarks

CRA will host a conference call this morning at 9:00 a.m. ET to discuss its second-quarter 2014 financial results. To listen to the live call, please visit the "<u>Investor Relations</u>" section of the Company's website at <u>http://www.crai.com</u>, or dial (877) 709-8155 or (201) 689-8881. An <u>archived</u> version of the webcast will be available on CRA's website for one year.

In combination with this press release, CRA has posted prepared remarks by its CFO Wayne Mackie under "<u>Conference Call Materials</u>" in the investor relations section on the Company's website at <u>http://www.crai.com</u>. These remarks are offered to provide the investment community with additional background on CRA's financial results prior to the start of the conference call.

About Charles River Associates (CRA)

Charles River Associates® is a global consulting firm specializing in <u>litigation, regulatory, and</u> <u>financial consulting, and management consulting</u>. CRA advises clients on economic and financial matters pertaining to litigation and regulatory proceedings, and guides corporations through critical business strategy and performance-related issues. Since 1965, clients have engaged CRA for its unique combination of functional expertise and industry knowledge, and for its objective solutions to complex problems. Headquartered in Boston, CRA has offices throughout the world. Detailed information about Charles River Associates, a registered trade name of CRA International, Inc., is available at <u>http://www.crai.com</u>.

NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

In addition to reporting its financial results in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, the Company has also provided in this release non-GAAP financial information. The Company believes the use of non-GAAP measures in addition to GAAP measures is an additional useful method of evaluating its results of operations. The Company believes that presenting its financial results excluding certain non-cash expenses and the results of the Company's NeuCo subsidiary, and excluding commissions to non-employee experts from SG&A, is important to investors and management because it is more indicative of the Company's ongoing operating results and financial condition. These non-GAAP financial measures should be considered in conjunction with, but not as a substitute for, the financial information presented in accordance with GAAP, and the expected results calculated in accordance with GAAP and reconciliations to those expected results should be carefully evaluated. The non-GAAP financial measures used by the Company may be calculated differently from, and therefore may not be

comparable to, similarly titled measures used by other companies. Specifically, for the second quarters of fiscal 2013 and 2014, and the year to date periods ended as of the end of these quarters, the Company has excluded NeuCo's results. Also, in calculating "Adjusted EBITDA," the Company has excluded the following non-cash expenses: depreciation and amortization, share-based compensation expenses, and amortization of forgivable loans.

SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT

Statements in this press release concerning the future business, operating results and financial condition of the Company, including statements regarding the quality of its portfolio, its project lead flow, its conversion rates and its financial position, and statements using the terms "expect," "balanced approach," "long-term goal," or similar expressions are "forward-looking" statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon management's current expectations and are subject to a number of factors and uncertainties. Information contained in these forward-looking statements is inherently uncertain, and actual performance and results may differ materially due to many important factors. Such factors that could cause actual performance or results to differ materially from any forward-looking statements made by the Company include, among others, the Company's restructuring costs and attributable annual cost savings, changes in the Company's effective tax rate, share dilution from the Company's stock-based compensation, dependence on key personnel, attracting, recruiting and retaining qualified consultants, dependence on outside experts, utilization rates, completing acquisitions and factors related to its completed acquisitions, including integration of personnel, clients and offices, and unanticipated expenses and liabilities, the risk of impairment write downs to the Company's intangible assets, including goodwill, if the Company's enterprise value declines below certain levels, risks associated with acquisitions it may make in the future, risks inherent in international operations, the performance of NeuCo, changes in accounting standards, rules and regulations, changes in the law that affect the Company's practice areas, management of new offices, the potential loss of clients, the ability of customers to terminate the Company's engagements on short notice, dependence on the growth of the Company's management consulting practice, the unpredictable nature of litigation-related projects, the ability of the Company to integrate successfully new consultants into its practice, the Company's ability to collect on forgivable loans should any become due, general economic conditions, intense competition, risks inherent in litigation, and professional liability. Further information on these and other potential factors that could affect the Company's financial results is included in the Company's periodic

filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company cannot guarantee any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievement. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any of its forward-looking statements after the date of this press release.

CRA INTERNATIONAL, INC. UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS INCLUDING A RECONCILIATION TO NON-GAAP RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 28, 2014 COMPARED TO THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 29, 2013 (In thousands, except per share data)

	Quarter Ended June 28, 2014							Quarter Ended June 29, 2013								
			GAAP		tments to	Non-GAAP		Non-GAAP			GAAP	Adjustments to GAAP Results		Non-GAAP		Non-GAAP % of
		GAAP	% of					% of		GAAP	% of					
	R	esults	Revenues	(Nel	uCo) (1)	F	Results	Revenues		Results	Revenues	(Ne	uCo) (1)	R	lesults	Revenues
Revenues	\$	78,184	100.0%	\$	1,309	\$	76,875	100.0%	\$	65,203	100.0%	\$	1,121	\$	64,082	100.0%
Costs of services		52,669	67.4%		400		52,269	68.0%		45,042	69.1%		303		44,739	69.8%
Gross profit		25,515	32.6%		909		24,606	32.0%		20,161	30.9%		818		19,343	30.2%
Selling, general and administrative expenses		17,463	22.3%		925		16,538	21.5%		15,380	23.6%		875		14,505	22.6%
Depreciation and amortization		1,559	2.0%		-		1,559	2.0%		1,611	2.5%		1		1,610	2.5%
Income (loss) from operations		6,493	8.3%		(16)		6,509	8.5%		3,170	4.9%		(58)		3,228	5.0%
Interest and other income (expense), net		(159)	-0.2%		11		(170)	-0.2%		198	0.3%		(14)		212	0.3%
Income (loss) before (provision) benefit for income taxes		6,334	8.1%		(5)		6,339	8.2%		3,368	5.2%		(72)		3,440	5.4%
Provision for income taxes		(3,167)	-4.1%		(41)		(3,126)	-4.1%		(2,017)	-3.1%		(60)		(1,957)	-3.1%
Net income (loss)		3,167	4.1%		(46)		3,213	4.2%		1,351	2.1%		(132)		1,483	2.3%
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest, net of tax		21	0.0%		21		-	0.0%		58	0.1%		58		-	0.0%
Net income (loss) attributable to CRA International, Inc.	\$	3,188	4.1%	\$	(25)	\$	3,213	4.2%	\$	1,409	2.2%	\$	(74)	\$	1,483	2.3%
Net income per share attributable to CRA International, Inc.:																
Basic	\$	0.32				\$	0.32		\$	0.14				\$	0.15	
Diluted	\$	0.32				\$	0.32		\$	0.14				\$	0.15	
2 1000	Ţ	0.02				÷	0.02		÷	0.111				Ŷ	0110	
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:																
Basic		9,919					9,919			10,100					10,100	
Diluted		10,026					10,026			10,188					10,188	

(1) These adjustments include activity related to NeuCo in the Company's GAAP results.

CRA INTERNATIONAL, INC. UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS INCLUDING A RECONCILIATION TO NON-GAAP RESULTS FOR THE YEAR TO DATE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 28, 2014 COMPARED TO THE YEAR TO DATE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 29, 2013 (In thousands, except per share data)

		Year To Date Perio	od Ended June 28, 20	014		Year To Date Period Ended June 29, 2013							
	GAAP Results	GAAP % of Revenues	Adjustments to GAAP Results (NeuCo) (1)	Non-GAAP Results	Non-GAAP % of Revenues	GAAP Results	GAAP % of Revenues	Adjustments to GAAP Results (NeuCo) (1)	Non-GAAP Results	Non-GAAP % of Revenues			
Revenues Costs of services Gross profit	\$ 154,429 104,535 49,894	100.0% <u>67.7%</u> 32.3%	\$ 2,473 764 1,709	\$ 151,956 103,771 48,185	100.0% 68.3% 31.7%	\$ 128,333 87,057 41,276	100.0% 67.8% 32.2%	\$ 2,222 669 1,553	\$ 126,111 86,388 39,723	100.0% <u>68.5%</u> 31.5%			
Selling, general and administrative expenses Depreciation and amortization Income (loss) from operations	34,623 3,149 12,122	22.4% 2.0% 7.8%	1,887 (178)	32,736 3,149 12,300	21.5% 2.1% 8.1%	31,180 3,152 6,944	24.3% 2.5% 5.4%	1,774 2 (223)	29,406 3,150 7,167	23.3% 2.5% 5.7%			
Interest and other income (expense), net Income (loss) before (provision) benefit for income taxes and noncontrolling interest Provision for income taxes Net income (loss) Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest, net of tax	(404) 11,718 (5,243) 6,475 123	-0.3% 7.6% -3.4% 4.2% 0.1%	(184) (94) (278) 123	(398) 11,902 (5,149) 6,753	-0.3% 7.8% -3.4% 4.4% 0.0%	(199) 6,745 (2,559) 4,186 192	-0.2% 5.3% -2.0% 3.3% 0.1%	(34) (257) (130) (387) 192	(165) 7,002 (2,429) 4,573	-0.1% 5.6% -1.9% 3.6% 0.0%			
Net income (loss) attributable to CRA International, Inc. Net income per share attributable to CRA International, Inc. Basic Diluted	\$ 0.66 \$ 0.66	4.3%	\$ (155)	\$ 6,753 \$ 0.68 \$ 0.67	4.4%	\$ 0.43 \$ 0.43	3.4%	\$ (195)	\$ 4,573 \$ 0.45 \$ 0.45	3.6%			
Weighted average number of shares outstanding: Basic Diluted	<u>9,974</u> 10,067			<u>9,974</u> 10,067		<u>10,085</u> 10,174			<u> </u>				

(1) These adjustments include activity related to NeuCo in the Company's GAAP results.

CRA INTERNATIONAL, INC. UNAUDITED ADJUSTED EBITDA INCLUDING A RECONCILIATION TO NON-GAAP ADJUSTED EBITDA FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR TO DATE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 28, 2014 COMPARED TO THE QUARTER AND YEAR TO DATE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 29, 2013

(In thousands)

	GAAP Quarter Ended June 28, 2014		GAAP % of Revenues	GÁA	stments to P Results euCo (1)	Qua	on-GAAP arter Ended ne 28, 2014	Non-GAAP % of Revenues	Quar	GAAP rter Ended e 29, 2013	GAAP % of Revenues	GAAP	ments to Results ICo (1)	Qua	on-GAAP rter Ended e 29, 2013	Non-GAAP % of Revenues
Income (loss) from operations	\$	6,493	8.3%	\$	(16)	\$	6.509	8.5%	\$	3,170	4.9%	\$	(58)	\$	3,228	5.0%
Depreciation and amortization		1,559	2.0%		-		1,559	2.0%	·	1,611	2.5%	·	1	-	1,610	2.5%
EBITDA		8,052	10.3%		(16)		8,068	10.5%		4,781	7.3%		(57)		4,838	7.5%
Share-based compensation expenses		1,289	1.6%		-		1,289	1.7%		841	1.3%		-		841	1.3%
Amortization of forgivable loans		3,543	4.5%		-		3,543	4.6%		3,274	5.0%		-		3,274	5.1%
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	12,884	16.5%	\$	(16)	\$	12,900	16.8%	\$	8,896	13.6%	\$	(57)	\$	8,953	14.0%

	GAAP Year to Date Period Ended June 28, 2014		GAAP Adjustments % of GAAP Resul Revenues NeuCo (1)		P Results			Non-GAAP % of Revenues	% of Period Ended		GAAP % of Revenues	Adjustments to GAAP Results NeuCo (1)		Non-GAAP Year to Date Period Ended June 29, 2013		Non-GAAP % of Revenues
Income (loss) from operations	\$	12,122	7.8%	\$	(178)	\$	12,300	8.1%	\$	6,944	5.4%	\$	(223)	\$	7,167	5.7%
Depreciation and amortization		3,149	2.0%		-		3,149	2.1%		3,152	2.5%		2		3,150	2.5%
EBITDA		15,271	9.9%		(178)		15,449	10.2%		10,096	7.9%		(221)		10,317	8.2%
Share-based compensation expenses		2,616	1.7%		-		2,616	1.7%		1,321	1.0%		-		1,321	1.0%
Amortization of forgivable loans		6,922	4.5%		-		6,922	4.6%		6,045	4.7%		-		6,045	4.8%
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	24,809	16.1%	\$	(178)	\$	24,987	16.4%	\$	17,462	13.6%	\$	(221)	\$	17,683	14.0%

(1) These adjustments include activity related to NeuCo in the Company's GAAP results.

CRA INTERNATIONAL, INC. UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands)

	June 28, 2014			ember 28, 2013	
Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	27,614	\$	51,251	
Accounts receivable and unbilled, net		93,598		82,131	
Other current assets		33,354		29,581	
Total current assets		154,566		162,963	
Property and equipment, net		14,838		15,655	
Goodwill and intangible assets, net		89,210		86,110	
Other assets		48,386		55,576	
Total assets	\$	307,000	\$	320,304	
Liabilities and shareholders' equity					
Current liabilities	\$	70,054	\$	87,960	
Long-term liabilities		7,818		7,707	
Total liabilities		77,872		95,667	
Total shareholders' equity		229,128		224,637	
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	307,000	\$	320,304	

CRA INTERNATIONAL, INC. UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(In thousands)

		Year to Date od Ended	Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended			
		une 28, 2014	June 29, 2013			
Operating activities: Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash used in operating activities, net of effect of acquired businesses:	\$	6,475	\$	4,186		
Non-cash items, net Accounts receivable and unbilled services Working capital items, net Net cash used in operating activities		3,768 (8,621) (16,792) (15,170)		3,569 9,314 (42,795) (25,726)		
Investing activities: Consideration relating to acquisitions, net Purchase of property and equipment Collections on notes receivable		(1,537) (1,358) 14		(15,591) (1,971) 14		
Net cash used in investing activities		(2,881)		(17,548)		
Financing activities: Issuance of common stock, principally stock option exercises Payments on notes payable Borrowings under line of credit Repayments under line of credit Tax withholding payments reimbursed by restricted shares Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation Repurchase of common stock Debt issuance costs		- (26) - (143) - (5,355) -		207 - 17,320 (12,177) (214) 5 - (1,014)		
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		(5,524)		4,127		
Effect of foreign exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents		(62)		29		
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		(23,637) 51,251		(39,118) 55,451		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	27,614	\$	16,333		
Supplemental cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes Cash paid for interest	\$ \$	<u>8,600</u> 189	\$ \$	<u>1,287</u> 137		
Common stock issued for acquired business	\$	427	\$	-		