## IN THE NEWS

# Butzel Long co-sponsors program about \$25 billion Federal Loan Program to the Automotive Industry November 20

#### 11.12.2008 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Program features William J. Kohler, Co-Chair, Global Automotive Practice Group, Butzel Long

DETROIT, Mich. – **Butzel Long** is co-sponsoring a Members Only event presented by the Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA) on November 20. The program is titled, "OESA: The \$25 Billion Auto Loan Program: Impact on Suppliers." CSM Worldwide, Inc. is co-sponsoring the program along with Butzel Long.

**William J. Kohler,** senior attorney, co-chair, Global Automotive Practice, Butzel Long, is a featured speaker. He will discuss the history, legislative outcome and rulemaking process of this U.S. federal government loan program.

During the program, participants will learn about key aspects of the loan program and how their companies can take steps to improve facilities and develop advanced product offerings. The loan program originated with the passage last year of the EISA. Section 136 of EISA authorizes direct loans and other programs to provide U.S. investments in reequipping, expanding or establishing a facility for the manufacturing of new advanced technology, vehicles and equipment. The program, funded in September 2008, will allow more domestic manufacturing plants to qualify for direct loans.

#### About William J. Kohler

Based in Butzel Long's Detroit office, Mr. Kohler's practice includes leadership roles in three of Butzel Long's practice groups: Transaction and Finance Practice, Global Automotive Industry Practice and Global Trade and Transactions Practice.

Mr. Kohler was formerly vice president and general counsel of Johnson Controls' automotive operations in North and South America. While at Johnson Controls, Mr. Kohler was responsible for all legal, governmental and environmental affairs of the company's largest business unit. Prior to joining Johnson Controls, he was employed for 10 years at Chrysler Corporation and DaimlerChrysler AG, first as senior counsel on the international legal staff of the Office of the General Counsel, and then in positions of increasing responsibility within the Treasurer's Office and the Finance Department.

#### **Butzel Long's Global Automotive Practice**

The lawyers in Butzel Long's Global Automotive Practice are the leading advisors to automotive supplier companies worldwide. The Firm provides representation to over one third of the largest global automotive suppliers, as well as numerous privately held and multi-generational companies. Butzel Long counsels automotive clients on legal and business issues throughout the United States and in strategic markets around the world. The Firm's global capabilities and experience includes developed markets such as the United States, Europe and Canada, as well as emerging markets such as China, India and Mexico.

#### About OESA

The Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA) mission is to advance the business interests of automotive OE suppliers by providing forums to address issues of common concern, serving as a resource for industry information and analysis, promoting the interests of the OE supplier community, and serving as a voice and positive change agent for the industry.

### **About Butzel Long**

Butzel Long was established in 1854 and is headquartered in Detroit. Butzel Long is one of America's leading law firms, with 240 attorneys and offices in Detroit, Bloomfield Hills, Lansing, and Ann Arbor, Michigan, New York City, Washington, D.C., Boca Raton and Palm Beach, Florida, as well as Alliance offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Mexico City and Monterrey. The firm represents clients from diverse industries on a regional, national and multi-national level and is the sole Michigan member of Lex Mundi, a global association of 160 independent law firms. Visit the Butzel Long website at www.butzel.com().

\* \* \* \* \*

Media Contact: Maribeth Farkas at Caponigro Public Relations Inc., (248) 355-3200.

#### **Related Services**

Automotive Industry Team

