

James Pethokoukis Joins Reuters Commentary Team

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NEW YORK, April 29 /PRNewswire/ -- Reuters today announced the hire of James Pethokoukis, who will join Reuters commentary team as a columnist based in Washington, D.C., covering U.S. economic policy, regulation and the economy. Pethokoukis will report into Jeffrey Cane, U.S. editor, commentary, and will start on May 18, 2009.

As one of the more distinctive voices in the debates centered on the intersection of the economy and government, James has been a writer and blogger for U.S. News & World Report since 1997, as well a contributor to CNBC. Previously, James worked at USA Today and Investor's Business Daily. James is a 1989 graduate of Northwestern University, where he double majored in Soviet politics and American history, and is a 1991 graduate of the Medill School of Journalism.

"The credit crisis has tilted the balance of U.S. financial power away from New York and towards Washington, so the hiring of James Pethokoukis, who will cover the Capitol and its environs, is an essential plank in our plans to build a commentary team that will focus on the biggest stories in financial markets globally," said Jonathan Ford, global commentary editor. "James will contribute to all parts of the service we are building. He will post to our global financial blog and will also write longer columns on the evolving debate. I am very excited to have him aboard."

Primarily based in London and New York, the commentary team will also have a presence in the main emerging economies. It will draw on Reuters unparalleled news coverage from its 197 bureaus around the world. Reuters commentators will produce a blog, and the company has hired the well-known financial blogger Felix Salmon to lead that effort. Commentators will also produce short opinionated columns every day on the top stories from around the globe as well as longer columns written both by in-house commentators and external experts and thought leaders. The team, which will comprise approximately 25 journalists, will be led by Jonathan Ford, who was the co-founder of Breakingviews. The European team will be led by Peter Thal Larsen, formerly banking editor of the Financial Times, and the U.S. team will be led by Jeffrey Cane, formerly an editor at Portfolio.com and the New York Times.

"I am extremely excited to be joining the world's premier news organization," said Pethokoukis. "The commentary service is an amazing opportunity both for both Reuters and me, personally."

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