



## FTI Consulting Expands Global Aviation Offering

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### Enhances Restructuring, Transactions, Reputational and Transformation Expertise with the Appointment of Six Senior Professionals

WASHINGTON, Aug. 06, 2020 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- FTI Consulting, Inc. (NYSE: FCN) today announced continued investment in its Aviation offering with the launch of a dedicated global industry practice and the appointment of two Senior Managing Directors and four Managing Directors. This team will immediately enhance the firm's depth of expertise for airlines, manufacturers, lenders, lessors, investors and other aviation-industry players, as they continue to respond to the changing environment, stabilize their businesses amid profound uncertainty and take a leading position to emerge from the downturn.

Marc Bilbao and Neal Cohen join FTI Consulting as Senior Managing Directors within the [Corporate Finance & Restructuring](#) segment and Co-Leaders of the global Aviation offering. Scott Farnsworth, Joseph Kazanovski and Beau Roy have joined the Corporate Finance & Restructuring segment as Managing Directors. Earlier this year in March, Susan Donofrio joined the [Strategic Communications](#) segment as a Managing Director, providing aviation clients a holistic suite of transactional, reputational and operational solutions.

Mr. Bilbao brings nearly 25 years of experience in restructuring and investment banking, specializing in the aviation industry for more than 15 years. Mr. Cohen has 30 years of experience leading public and private companies, including those in the aviation, manufacturing and services industries. He previously served as Chief Financial Officer of Northwest Airlines, where he helped lead airline restructuring and the 2008 Delta Air Lines-Northwest Airlines merger.

"The global aviation and aerospace industries are under as much stress as perhaps any point in their history during this unprecedented time," said [Michael Eisenband](#), Global Co-Leader of the Corporate Finance & Restructuring segment at FTI Consulting. "With the mix of finance, restructuring and operations experience that Marc and Neal possess, they are ideal leaders to partner and launch our expanded Aviation offering. They understand the challenges facing the industry from the inside out. They will use their expertise, in combination with the power of the FTI Consulting global platform, to help clients optimize their business, stabilize operations and maximize enterprise value."

Mr. Bilbao, who is based in Los Angeles, represents companies and creditors in all phases of workouts and restructuring transactions, including the development of turnaround business strategies, debt and equity restructurings, M&A transactions and §363 sales. He also has substantial experience in out-of-court restructurings, including debt for equity swaps, debt restructuring, fleet optimizations, M&A transactions and partnership negotiations. Mr. Bilbao also will co-lead the West region of the Turnaround & Restructuring practice with Senior Managing Director [Amir Agam](#).

"With the global reach of FTI Consulting, there is an opportunity to continue to build on the aviation expertise the firm provides and make a tremendous difference for our clients," Mr. Bilbao said. "This was the ideal platform for me to work alongside FTI Consulting's deep bench of experts, including the incredible talent that Scott, Joseph and Beau bring to bear in restructuring and investment banking — enhancing FTI Consulting's comprehensive capabilities for clients across aviation and a broad range of industries."

In addition to his tenure as CFO, Mr. Cohen held several other senior positions at Northwest Airlines, including Executive Vice President of International and Strategy, Treasurer, and CEO of regional operations, among others. Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Mr. Cohen provided consulting to Avianca Airlines, where he served as the Chief Transformation Advisor. Before that, Mr. Cohen held executive positions at ATK, an aerospace and defense company, and US Airways, where he led its post-9/11 restructuring.

"FTI Consulting is an expert-based firm that offers a unique approach to achieving exceptional outcomes for clients going through significant restructurings or transformations," Mr. Cohen said. "I'm excited to expand the firm's aviation offering and work closely with dedicated experts like Susan, who bring decades of experience leading and operating within airline, aviation and financial services organizations. We will use our combined knowledge to provide industry clients and their stakeholders with distinct perspectives to navigate these extraordinary times and emerge as a successful competitor in the post-pandemic environment."

Ms. Donofrio, based in New York, joined FTI Consulting's Strategic Communications segment as an expert in the airline and aviation sector. Ms. Donofrio advises airline and aviation clients on a wide range of communications, strategic, operational and financial issues. Her overall coverage also includes aerospace, aircraft leasing, air freight, and the online travel agency sectors.

Before joining FTI Consulting, she was a Senior Equity Analyst on Wall Street at various firms, including Deutsche Bank and Macquarie Capital. Her deep knowledge of the space resulted in testifying before Congress after 9/11 at the request of senior airline leadership, with follow-up testimony a year later. From a corporate perspective, Ms. Donofrio led and implemented Hawaiian Airlines' Investor Relations Program. She also served as the lead Investor Relations Consultant for CIT Aerospace, an aircraft leasing company.

Mr. Farnsworth, who is based in Los Angeles, has more than 20 years of experience and specializes in providing financial advisory services to clients primarily within the aviation industry. His expertise includes strategic planning and negotiations, business plan development and review, bankruptcy preparation, detailed cash flow forecasting and liquidity management, Chapter 11 plan negotiations, claims estimation and management, DIP financing, §363 sales, the acquisition and financing of aircraft and engines, sale-leasebacks, lease buyouts, lease and debt restructurings, and export-import financing.

Mr. Kazanovski, who is based in Los Angeles, has 15 years of experience providing investment banking and financial advisory services to companies and creditors in financial restructurings, special situations financings, sale processes and mandates in aviation and for clients in a broad range of sectors. He has also provided expert testimony in U.S. Bankruptcy Court on behalf of debtors regarding DIP financing and sale processes. Mr. Kazanovski has managed and directly executed financial restructurings, financings, M&A and strategic advisory mandates with a primary focus on middle-market companies across various industries.

Mr. Roy, who is based in San Francisco, has more than 25 years of experience and focuses on providing financing, M&A and restructuring advisory services to aviation industry clients. His expertise includes business plan development, cash flow forecasting, buy- and sell-side advisory mandates, debt financing for aircraft and engine acquisitions, public and private equity placement, fleet restructurings, §1110 stipulations, labor contract negotiations, buy- and sell-side advisory mandates, DIP and exit financing, Chapter 11 preparation and plan negotiations, §363 sale processes, and litigation support.

**About FTI Consulting**

FTI Consulting, Inc. is a global business advisory firm dedicated to helping organizations manage change, mitigate risk and resolve disputes: financial, legal, operational, political & regulatory, reputational and transactional. With more than 5,800 employees located in 27 countries, FTI Consulting professionals work closely with clients to anticipate, illuminate and overcome complex business challenges and make the most of opportunities. The Company generated \$2.35 billion in revenues during fiscal year 2019. For more information, visit [www.fticonsulting.com](http://www.fticonsulting.com) and connect with us on [Twitter \(@FTIConsulting\)](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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