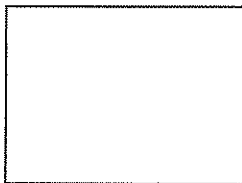




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## Kekst tops mergermarket M&A list

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NEW YORK: Kekst & Company topped mergermarket's 2007 year-end league table of PR advisers for North American M&A for both value and volume.

Kekst tallied a total value of \$236.6 billion with 126 deals. Joele Frank Wilkinson Brimmer Katcher came in second for value with \$219.5 billion and Abernathy MacGregor Group placed second in volume with 118 for the year.

"I think the results show that PR advisers are becoming central to the M&A process," said Abigail Roberts, editor for mergermarket America. "You see the same top PR firms year after year. It shows that they're here to stay."

Kekst aided Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Company on the TXU and First Data acquisitions, which were two of the year's largest.