



**Company News
Press Release**

For Immediate Release
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**Prasanth Burri Rao-Kathi Joins LEERINK Partners
Investment Banking Team**

Boston, MA—May 3, 2016—LEERINK Partners, a leading healthcare investment bank, announced that Prasanth “Burri” Rao-Kathi has joined its Investment Banking team as a Managing Director. Burri will lead the Convertible Capital Markets franchise at LEERINK and will be based in the firm’s New York office.

Mr. Rao-Kathi brings over 20 years of investment banking experience to LEERINK Partners. Most recently, he was the Head of Americas Equity-Linked Origination at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Mr. Rao-Kathi joined Merrill Lynch in 1999 where he led the structuring, execution and pricing of Merrill Lynch's healthcare convertible offerings, many of which included landmark innovations: Contingent Conversion, Contingent Payment, Bond Hedges, HiPrs, Collateralization, Simultaneous Bond & Stock Repurchases and Prepaid Forwards.

“I am thrilled to welcome Burri to our firm and have great confidence in his ability to lead our Convertible Capital Markets franchise,” said Jim Boylan, President of LEERINK Partners and Head of Investment Banking. “We strive to be the leading investment bank focused on innovative and growth minded healthcare companies and believe that convertible financings will be an increasingly important product for our clients.”

“LEERINK Partners has become a clear market leader in Equity Capital Markets and M&A Advisory services. I find the opportunity at LEERINK to be a compelling and natural fit,” said Mr. Rao-Kathi. “I look forward to working alongside this accomplished team to build the convertible capital markets business and advance the firm with leading healthcare companies.”

About LEERINK Partners

LEERINK Partners LLC is a leading investment bank, specializing in healthcare. Our knowledge, experience and focus enable us to help our clients define and achieve their strategic, capital markets and investment objectives. We partner with companies that develop and commercialize innovative products and services that are defining the future of healthcare. LEERINK Partners LLC is a member of FINRA/SIPC. For more information, please visit: www.leerink.com.