

# Press Release



THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

**Contacts:** Ron Gruendl  
+1 412 234 7157  
ron.gruendl@bnymellon.com

Lane Cigna  
+1 412 234 0575  
lane.cigna@bnymellon.com

## **The Bank of New York Mellon Marks 225 Years of Innovation, Stability and Outstanding Client Service**

**NEW YORK, June 9, 2009** — The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, the global leader in asset management and securities servicing, will observe its 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary from June 9-16, 2009, with events that mark the company's history of innovation and stability. One worldwide effort includes hundreds of employee volunteers lending a helping hand to nonprofit organizations through the company's Community Partnership employee volunteering program. In addition, a multimedia package on the company's storied history has been posted on its website ([www.bnymellon.com/225years](http://www.bnymellon.com/225years)) and company representatives, including an employee with more than 55 years of service to the organization, will ring the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange on Tuesday, June 16.

"Our company has a remarkable and unique history. As the oldest bank in the United States, ours is a story of innovation and change, and also an example of the power of continuity. Over the course of these 225 years, the people of The Bank of New York Mellon have stayed true to the values that still guide our success today: client focus, trust, teamwork and outperformance," said Robert P. Kelly, chairman and chief executive officer of The Bank of New York Mellon. "It is fitting that during this anniversary year, our company continues to play a critical and stabilizing role in the global economy. We look forward to continuing to support our people, clients and communities for the next 225 years."

In 1784, 27-year-old Alexander Hamilton was charged with writing the constitution for a bank which opened on June 9 near where the Brooklyn Bridge now stands. In those early days, the company provided some \$200,000 to finance the newly established U.S. government and in 1792 became the first company listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Throughout its history, the organization has played a critical role in the development and growth of the Industrial Revolution and global finance.

The company has continued to prosper throughout severe market cycles and economic conditions, remaining solvent even during the Great Depression. When other banks closed at that time due to a rush on their capital, the company remained open, never missed a dividend payment and reported a profit in each of those quarters.

"Throughout its distinguished history, clients, governments and the banking industry have relied on the company's strength and wisdom to weather difficult times," said Gerald Hassell, president, The Bank of New York Mellon. "Our leaders through time have laid the foundation for our stability and growth."

The company has been led by true visionaries, including former U.S. Treasury secretaries Alexander Hamilton (the first Treasury Secretary) and Andrew Mellon (the 49<sup>th</sup>). Strategically, the company's leaders recognized the global nature of business, expanding overseas then refining the business model, due in part to a remarkable series of acquisitions and mergers. The company moved away from traditional banking businesses, focusing instead on asset management and securities servicing, the infrastructure and backbone for global financial markets. The company's expansion into Europe began in 1813 and its Latin America relationships started in 1893, while business in the Middle East was established in 1911 and its roots in Asia took hold in the 1920s.

Throughout its history, the company also has recognized a responsibility beyond its employees and clients, always striving to make a difference in the lives of others and in the communities in which its employees live and work. "Corporate Social Responsibility is fundamental to our culture and values. We live in many communities, and we cannot be a great company if the communities where we work are not strong, too," Kelly noted. The Bank of New York Mellon continues to support a wide range of dynamic, visionary organizations that help to create a better world.

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For information about The Bank of New York Mellon's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, visit [www.bnymellon.com\225 years](http://www.bnymellon.com\225%20years).

The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation is a global financial services company focused on helping clients manage and service their financial assets, operating in 34 countries and serving more than 100 markets. The company is a leading provider of financial services for institutions, corporations and high-net-worth individuals, providing superior asset management and wealth management, asset servicing, issuer services, clearing services and treasury services through a worldwide client-focused team. It has \$19.5 trillion in assets under custody and administration, \$881 billion in assets under management, services more than \$11 trillion in outstanding debt and processes global payments averaging \$1.8 trillion per day. Additional information is available at [www.bnymellon.com](http://www.bnymellon.com).

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