

## News Release

For Immediate Release

April 1, 2014

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### **Coface Collections North America Upholds Integrity and Highest Level of Standards U.S. District Court Rules in Favor of CCNA (Altus) in FDCPA Case**

**(Kenner, La)** –A U.S. District Court in Arizona ruled in favor of Coface Collections North America, Inc. (CCNA), now Altus Global Trade Solutions, by dismissing a claim that it violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) late last week.

The Plaintiff, Andrew Peters, purchased software from Media Cybernetics/Princeton Instruments using the business name Multi Media Plus. When Peters did not pay for the software, Princeton placed the account with CCNA, a comprehensive commercial accounts receivable management agency, for collection. Peters claimed in the lawsuit that CCNA collected the debt in an unfair and harassing manner in violation of the FDCPA. Both parties moved for a summary judgment.

The Judge swiftly dismissed the claim in a summary judgment stating:

*“When plaintiff purchased the software from Princeton, he listed the name “Multi Media Plus” as the purchaser. He asserts that he used the business name to purchase the software because Princeton (the creditor) only sells to businesses. It is undisputed that if plaintiff had not represented himself as a business, the sale would not have occurred.”*

“We are happy with the ruling,” said Tom Brenan, Altus’ president. “Altus is committed to protecting our clients’ and acting in full compliance with the FDCPA and other applicable laws and regulatory requirements. We will always defend ourselves against these frivolous and inaccurate claims that contradict the trust we have worked to earn on behalf of our clients. We operate under the highest level of standards and our quality control measures ensure we are always in compliance with the FDCPA.”

Altus is licensed and bonded in every state required in the United States and Canada and carries a \$300 thousand trust bond as an additional safeguard.

Altus has earned [SSAE 16 Type II Certification](#) demonstrating its commitment to protecting its clients’ assets. The certification attests that internal controls are in position, adhered to and fully documented. As a requirement for companies that provide services to large and/or public companies, this benchmark is rarely achieved in the debt recovery industry.

Altus is a member of, and certified by both the [Commercial Law League of America](#) (CLLA) and the [International Association of Commercial Collectors](#) (IACC). In addition, all collectors are certified by the IACC, a prestigious certification that requires mastery of a wide variety of issues that impact the commercial collection industry.

Altus' collectors are the most experienced and professionally trained in the industry. Our leadership team is committed to continuing education and professional development to provide the highest quality of service to our customers.

Altus' collectors and account representatives are certified by the Credit Business Associate of the [National Association of Credit Management](#) (NACM). The Credit Business Associate is an academic-based designation that signals mastery of three business-credit related disciplines: basic financial accounting, business credit principles and introductory financial statement analysis.

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### **About Altus**

As a Natixis company, Altus provides commercial debt recovery services in the United States and abroad. The company is a comprehensive, full service receivable management agency offering receivable management outsourcing, domestic and international commercial collections, audit collection, and business receivable management training.

Altus is fully licensed and bonded in all required jurisdictions. It is also certified by the Commercial Law League of America (CLLA) of the Commercial Collections Agency Association of CCAA and the International Association of Commercial Collectors (IACC).

Altus has achieved Type II Certification with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Statement of Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) 16 for meeting rigorous criteria regarding its controls and processes, policies, procedures, personnel and operational activities.

Founded in 1994, Altus is headquartered in Kenner, La., with branch offices in Colorado, Washington and New Jersey. Visit us at [www.trustaltus.com](http://www.trustaltus.com).

### **About Natixis**

Natixis is the corporate, investment and financial services arm of Groupe BPCE, the 2nd-largest banking group in France with 21% of total bank deposits and 36 million clients spread over two networks, Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Épargne.

With more than 15,300 employees (excl. Coface), Natixis has a number of areas of expertise, which are organized in three main business lines: Wholesale Banking, Investment Solutions and Specialized Financial Services.

A global player, Natixis has its own client base of companies, financial institutions and institutional investors as well as the client base of individuals, professionals and small and medium-size businesses of Groupe BPCE's two retail banking networks.

Listed on the Paris stock exchange, it has a solid financial base with a CET1 capital under Basel 3 (1) of €12.5 billion, a Basel 3 CET1 Ratio(1) of 10.4% and quality long-term ratings (Standard & Poor's: A / Moody's: A2 / Fitch Ratings: A).

(1) Based on Natixis understanding of CRR-CRD4 rules reported on June 26, 2013, including the danish compromise - without phase-in except for DTAs on tax loss carry forwards Figures as at December 31, 2013

**BPCE Group**

Groupe BPCE pursues a full range of banking and insurance activities, working through its two major Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Épargne cooperative banking networks and different subsidiaries.

Groupe BPCE, the 2nd largest banking group in France, has deep roots in its local markets. Its 117,000 employees serve a total of 36 million customers.

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