

Ron Graziano is a Vice President of Credit Suisse and serves as the Accounting Strategist within the HOLT group. HOLT is an advisory service of Credit Suisse that offers its clients unique insights into corporate performance and valuation. Mr. Graziano is actively involved in writing research and consulting the firm's largest institutional investor clients. His approach is unique because he relies on proprietary accounting adjustments that HOLT makes to uncover factors that affect operating performance and valuation decisions. In addition, he has the advantage of HOLT's 20,000 company, 60 country database to draw insights from. He has authored multiple research papers, developed products, and consults institutional investors on difficult accounting topics such as quality of earnings issues, stock options, international financial reporting standards, derivatives for non financials, the effect of the credit crunch on corporate balance sheets and financing subsidiaries, pensions, corporate taxes and share buybacks.

Prior to joining Credit Suisse, Mr. Graziano was a Vice President at Ashton Partners, the nation's largest independent investor relations and strategic consulting firm. He was actively involved in developing and overseeing consulting projects at the executive management level (CEO, CFO and BODs) for publicly traded companies. As Vice President, Mr. Graziano specialized in building and assessing the appropriate operating and strategic benchmarks for Ashton's diverse client base. Utilizing his experience in financial reporting and valuation, Mr. Graziano worked closely with senior management teams to help increase their visibility and strategic message with institutional investors.

Mr. Graziano was a financial consultant with Deloitte & Touché prior to joining Ashton Partners. His specialization was performing financial value-based modeling for public companies. With extensive experience in performance and valuation metrics, he met regularly with senior management teams in order to train, consult and implement specific valuation and performance metrics such as CFROI and EVA.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Graziano served as a senior auditor with KPMG. Experience includes consolidations, financial statement analysis, partnership accounting and overall investigation of client accounting systems for the purpose of improving internal controls and external reporting.

Mr. Graziano graduated with honors (summa cum laude) from Loyola University with a BA in Accounting, received his MBA (with honors) from DePaul University and is a CPA. Mr. Graziano often guest lectures/teaches at local universities about accounting, performance and valuation issues. Professional memberships include the Illinois Certified Public Accountants (CPA) and National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI). Mr. Graziano has authored several white papers, published research papers and been quoted as an expert in major financial journals on numerous subjects that affect the capital markets.