

ORANGE, CA – Monday, May 22, 2023 – First Financial Equipment Leasing (FFEL), a leading equipment leasing solutions provider, announced today that Brian Hutchison joined the company as Senior Vice President to spearhead expansion into the construction and industrial equipment segment. Hutchison has extensive experience building and leading vendor finance programs with partners both in the US and internationally. At FFEL, he will focus on developing dealer and vendor-focused solutions for the company's entry into the segment.

Through this expansion, FFEL is well-positioned to accelerate the organic growth of its core business and push forward new initiatives with the support of its parent company, JA Mitsui Leasing, Ltd. (JAML). JAML has extensive credentials for supporting the construction industry in Japan and is well-positioned to bring that expertise to the North American market.

Led by Hutchison, a newly formed construction-specific team will focus on significant opportunities within the company to enhance leasing options for vendors, dealers, and customers. "While we have historically provided direct leasing solutions, our construction team will add dealer and vendor-focused solutions to our model," said Brian Dundon, SVP, Head of Corporate Development, FFEL. "Given his customer-centric leadership style and strong track record of success with manufacturers and dealers, Hutchison will be instrumental in identifying new revenue opportunities and enhancing leasing options to various customer groups."

Hutchison has over 25 years in equipment finance, with roles in wholesale operations, underwriting, and sales. Before joining FFEL, Hutchison spent 19 years in commercial leadership roles with DLL Financial Services, including joint venture managing director and global account manager for a vendor program partner.

"I am excited to join FFEL at a time of significant growth and expansion to lead our construction team," said Brian Hutchison, Senior Vice President – Construction, FFEL. "The company has earned a stellar reputation within the leasing industry for its unparalleled customer service and innovative financing programs, and I look forward to taking the construction group to new heights."

About First Financial Equipment Leasing – JA Mitsui Leasing Group

First Financial Equipment Leasing specializes in the acquisition of Construction & Industrial Equipment, Healthcare, IT Solutions and Services, Material Handling & Automation, and Renewable Energy & Solar. For over 20 years, First Financial Equipment Leasing has provided financing solutions designed to conserve capital and offer affordable access to often expensive yet increasingly critical, advanced technologies and equipment.

Headquartered in Southern California, First Financial Equipment Leasing is a member of JA Mitsui Leasing, Ltd. (JAML), a joint venture of Mitsui & Co. (2022 revenue \$96B) and Norinchukin Bank (2022 assets totaling \$1.05 Trillion)

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