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## Ex-Clinton Partners Launch Second Fund

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**By Emma Trincal, Senior Financial Correspondent**

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NEW YORK (HedgeWorld.com)—Cura Capital Management LLC, a \$400 million New York-based hedge fund run by former Clinton Group Inc. partner Tom Schnepf, launched its second fund last month. The multi-strategy fund, dubbed Cura Compass Ltd., brings together several ex-partners from Clinton Group and has received \$60 million in seed capital from Hedge Fund Ventures, the seeding arm of Man Group plc.

Mr. Schnepf, who was the head of global bond arbitrage at Clinton, left that firm in April 2004 [Previous HedgeWorld Story](#). He founded Cura the same year and launched his first fund, Cura Fixed-Income Arbitrage Fund Ltd., in December 2004, overseeing the fund himself.

Joining him to manage the second fund is Mike Vacca, Clinton's former chief operating officer who also used to oversee Clinton's convertible bond arbitrage as well as its event-driven and distressed strategies. Mr. Vacca will manage the same strategies for Cura's multi-strategy fund. Richard Cohen, another ex-Clinton senior executive, will also be part of the Cura multi-strategy team. He will run statistical equity arbitrage, a role he played at Clinton, launching and managing the firm's equity statistical arbitrage strategy. Robert Smalley, former head of corporate credit research at Clinton, will play the same role at Cura. After leaving Clinton, Mr. Smalley joined FrontPoint Partners LLC where he managed the credit team.

Cura Compass Fund includes eight core strategies: Convertible bond arbitrage, event-driven, distressed, long/short credit trading, corporate structure arbitrage, fixed-income arbitrage, equity statistical arbitrage and structured products.

Len Herk, a former event-driven and distressed trader at Clinton, also has joined the Cura team.

The fund essentially targets institutional investors with a \$1 million minimum investment. Morgan Stanley is the prime broker. The legal counsel is Seward & Kissel LLP and Rothstein Kass is the auditor.

The name of the firm, Cura, in Latin means "care."

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