CastleOak Securities

CASTLEOAK SECURITIES ADDS SEASONED PROFESSIONAL, RUFUS JONES, TO ITS EQUITY CAPITAL MARKETS TEAM

-- CastleOak Securities Further Strengthens Its Equity Sales And Trading Business --

New York – (June 3, 2008) – CastleOak Securities, L.P., a leading minority-owned investment bank based in New York, announced today that Rufus Jones, Jr. has joined its Equity Sales and Trading group as Managing Director – Equity Capital Markets. He will focus on further building CastleOak's equity sales and trading business, primarily in the Southeast. Mr. Jones will report to David Jones, President and Chief Executive Officer.

With 17 years of sales and relationship management experience, Rufus Jones joins CastleOak from Lehman Brothers where he was a Vice President, and managed client relationships with the firm's largest mutual fund and hedge fund accounts on the Institutional Equities Sales desk. Prior to Lehman Brothers, he was a Vice President for SunTrust Bank and an Associate for Goldman, Sachs & Co.

David Jones said, "Rufus has lifelong connections to the Southeast market and has developed a wealth of relationships in the region. The current market environment presents an excellent opportunity to add such an outstanding professional to our team. Hiring Rufus reflects our continuing commitment to add exceptional talent and expertise to our equity sales and trading desk."

CastleOak is aggressively expanding its team of Capital Markets professionals. The firm, just under two years old, has grown to 25 employees and has assisted in the underwriting of over $186 billion in primary corporate offerings. CastleOak's clients include American Express, Citigroup, General Electric, Goldman Sachs, Microsoft, Southern Company, and UPS.

Rufus Jones, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, holds a B.A. from Harvard University and an MBA from the University of Tennessee.

About CastleOak Securities, L.P.

CastleOak Securities, L.P. is a leading minority-owned investment bank with an extensive suite of financial services including equity sales and trading, fixed income sales and trading, and financial advisory services. The firm offers clients expertise in primary and secondary market transactions, advice on mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, valuations and general strategic assessments. Based in New York, with regional offices in Chicago and Atlanta, CastleOak is managed by a team of seasoned investment bankers who provide innovative, client-driven solutions that leverage their extensive professional experience, strong institutional relationships and keen market insight.

For more information, please visit www.castleoaklp.com.

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