



CASTLEOAK SECURITIES ESTABLISHES INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES PLATFORM

New York, NY – (January 27, 2009) – CastleOak Securities, L.P., a leading minority-owned investment bank, announced the expansion of its electronic equity securities execution platform to include international equities. The firm’s highly experienced trading professionals have extensive knowledge of algorithmic and electronic trading which the firm plans to leverage in the international equities market.

David R. Jones, President and Chief Executive Officer commented, “I am proud to announce this expansion of our firm’s capabilities. Our equities platform is fully electronic and capable of trading equities in all MSCI-EAFE markets. With our strategic partner’s global infrastructure already in place, coupled with our clients’ need to execute trades in various global markets, this expansion is a natural progression in the development of both our equity platform and our firm’s growth.”

Since its launch in 2006, CastleOak has significantly expanded its capabilities. The addition of the international equities platform underscores a commitment to provide superior client service and dedication to offering solutions tailored to customers’ needs.

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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