



Fidelity Ranks Ford Equity Research Top Independent Research Provider

San Diego, CA – January 23, 2009 – Ford Equity Research, a leading independent equity research firm, has been named the top equity research firm offered through Fidelity’s retail brokerage, along with Standard & Poor’s. The study, conducted by Integrity Research, showed that Ford Equity Research and Standard and Poor’s demonstrated the best overall performance of their buy/sell recommendations during the past three years.

“With the 2003 regulatory settlement coming to an end this year, equity research firms will need to prove their performance to maintain and grow their client base.” says Jonathan Worrall, Mergent CEO and Chairman, Ford Equity Research. “We think Ford Equity Research’s track record speaks for itself, and this latest accolade from one of the world’s leading investment management companies is another validation of our strong performance over the long term.”

Ford Equity Research is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mergent, Inc.

About Ford Equity Research

Ford Equity Research is an independent investment research firm with the primary objective of helping clients improve their investment performance. Ford Equity has invested more than three decades collecting, validating and standing behind the highest quality fundamental current and historical data in the industry. This foundation allows Ford to construct and implement unique, successful stock selection models and powerful analytical software for its clients. For more information, visit www.fordequity.com

About Mergent

Mergent, Inc. is a leading provider of business and financial data on global publicly listed companies. Based in the U.S, the company maintains a strong global presence, with offices in New York, Fort Mill, San Diego, London, Tokyo and Melbourne.

Founded in 1900, Mergent operates one of the longest continuously collected database of: descriptive and fundamental information on domestic and international companies; pricing and terms and conditions data on fixed income and equity securities; and corporate action data. In addition, Mergent develops and licenses equity and fixed income investment products based on its proprietary investment methodologies. Mergent-licensed products have over \$3.5 billion in assets under management and are offered by major investment management firms. Mergent's index calculation platform is the chosen technology for some of the world's largest index companies. Its index calculation and pricing distribution protocols are used to administer index rules and distribute real-time pricing data.

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