

EARNEST Partners Forms Alliance with Chinese Broker Dealer Essence Securities

September 22, 2010

EARNEST Partners is pleased to announce the execution of a cooperation agreement with Essence Securities Co., Ltd, one of China's leading securities dealers, with 95 branches and more than 2 million investors.

Per the agreement, the firms will work together to enhance their shared understanding of the constantly evolving global marketplace and to develop business opportunities in both markets. The agreement formalizes the continued sharing of research and information between the firms and paves the way for other mutually beneficial projects for EARNEST Partners and Essence Securities.

Essence Securities is well positioned to advise on both China's regulatory and business environments. The firm is majority owned by China's Protection Fund of Securities Investor, which is directly controlled by the China Securities Regulatory Commission.

EARNEST Partners CEO Paul Viera commented that he is "proud to partner with what he believes to be one of China's most innovative, capable and well-regarded financial firms". He said further that "the company's focus on integrity, urgency and quality of client service fit well with EARNEST Partners' core business philosophy."

About EARNEST Partners

EARNEST Partners is an independent, employee-owned asset management firm currently advising on more than \$15 billion in assets for clients around the world. EARNEST Partners manages portfolios for more than 300 clients including corporations, government pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, jointly-trusted plans, endowments and foundations. EARNEST Partners is headquartered in Atlanta, GA with representative offices in Beijing and Hong Kong.

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