



EARNEST PARTNERS, LLC SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES TYPE 2 SAS 70 AUDIT

February 4, 2010

EARNEST Partners is pleased to announce that it recently completed the service auditor's review commonly known as SAS 70. The audit was performed by a nationally recognized independent auditing firm, and was completed in January, 2010.

SAS 70 is an acronym for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Statement on Auditing Standard (SAS) No. 70, titled "Reports on the Processing of Transactions by Service Organizations". SAS No. 70 defines the professional standards used by a service auditor to assess the internal controls of a service organization and issue a service auditor's report.

EARNEST Partners' management recognizes that Sarbanes-Oxley legislation has placed an increased focus on the internal controls of valued business partners. The SAS 70 audit report is designed to provide clients with a certain level of assurance regarding the controls that are maintained by the Company's management. The SAS 70 report addresses all five components of internal control outlined in the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation, namely the control environment, risk assessment activities, control activities, information and communication systems, and monitoring activities.

Following this rigorous examination, the auditing firm was able to issue an unqualified opinion regarding each of the following areas: Physical Security; Environmental Security; Computer Operations; Information Security; System Change Control and Client Account Reconciliation.

The successful completion of the 2009 SAS 70 audit is only part of EARNEST Partners' continued commitment to maintaining a high level of internal control.

EARNEST Partners is an independent, employee-owned asset management firm currently advising on over \$15 billion in institutional assets for clients around the world. The firm manages portfolios for more than 300 clients including corporations, government pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, jointly-trusted plans, endowments and foundations. EARNEST Partners is also the sole subadvisor of the Hancock Horizon Diversified International Fund, the Touchstone Large Cap Relative Value Fund and the Harbor Small Cap Value Fund. EARNEST Partners is headquartered in Atlanta, GA, with a representative office in Beijing China.

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