



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Investorside Research Association Announces 2008 Leadership Awards

Member Firms and Individuals Recognized for Performance

New York, NY, October 28, 2008 At the 2008 Annual Members Day Conference held in New York City on October 21, 2008, Investorside recognized three member firms for Research Excellence by Performance and one firm as Overall Best Research Firm.

Trading Central was recognized as a top performer holding a top five position with Investars for the past two years. "In October 2008 Trading Central ranks Number 2 Best Performing Research, measured by Long and Short Positions, over a 1 year trailing period (October 12, 2007-October 11, 2008), amongst 26 research brokers covering 100-499 US stocks" according to Investars, the leading research performance rating agency. Trading Central was also named Best Performing Research Firm in terms of "Batting Average" amongst research brokers and alternative providers by Integrity Research Associates.

Standpoint's Ronnie Moas was recognized for consistently beating the S&P 500 year over year. According to Investars, for the four years ended October 1st 2008 Standpoint Research is ahead of the S&P 500 by 1191 basis points. For the three years ending October 1, 2008 Standpoint Research beat the S&P by 462 basis points. For the two years ending October 1, 2008, Standpoint Research leads the S&P by 406 basis points. Once again, trailing 52 weeks, Standpoint is ahead of the S&P 500 in 2008.

Greenwich Consultants, LLC's Michael Judd was recognized for top performance in stock selection. Mr. Judd has ranked in the Wall Street Journal's Best on the Street Analyst Survey for stock picking in three of the last four years. In 2006 and 2007 he ranked as the number one stock picker in Chemicals and in 2007 he was chosen the number one stock picker in "All" sectors and named the number one "Top Gun" stock picker. His competition last year included over 4,000 analysts representing more than 260 firms. StarMine, one of the world's largest and most trusted sources of objective equity research performance ratings, ranked Mr. Judd the number one stock picker in Chemicals for both the U.S. and Canada as of the end of September 2008, on a trailing 12 month basis. "Mr. Judd's rankings continue to prove that in both good and challenging market conditions, his stock picking performance remains best of breed" commented Patrick Shea, Executive Director of Investorside Research Association.



Sanford Bernstein was awarded the title Overall Best Research Firm by Investorside Research Association. Rated by buyside analysts, Sanford Bernstein was ranked by far the industry's best in research and analyst quality. When measured by quality, they beat many of their bulge bracket competitors combined. "Sanford C. Bernstein outscores all comers by a huge margin ...and maintains a research share comparable to that of several bulge bracket firms" according to Greenwich Associates.

"As evidenced by these awards for performance, Investorside member firms present the highest quality research for investors completely without bias or investment banking conflicts. Our research is not commissioned by corporate dollars and it is our goal to continue to protect the integrity of independent research going forward. It is crucial, now more than ever, that investors have strong independent research available to protect their retirement security" said Investorside's Patrick Shea.

About Investorside

The Investorside Research Association is a non-profit trade association of investment research providers that do not engage in investment banking, company consulting or research-for-hire. Our members constitute the leading investment research firms in the world, providing research that works purely for investors.

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