



AST Equity Plan Solutions Earns Highest Client Favorable Rating in Group Five's 2010 Stock Plan Administration Study

NEW YORK — September 20, 2010 – AST Equity Plan Solutions announced today that it achieved the highest overall satisfaction rating for fully and partially outsourced plan administration, with 91% of clients providing a favorable rating, compared to the industry average of 79% in the Group Five 2010 Stock Plan Administration Study.

The independent study, released this week, is the largest of its kind, with 657 plan sponsors participating — representing 1,857 stock plans including stock options, restricted stock, stock purchase, performance shares, and stock appreciation rights. It is the industry's only independent forum for corporate stock plan sponsors to make their opinions and priorities known to service providers.

Ramona Hanes, President, AST Equity Plans Solutions noted, — “We are particularly honored that our team's significant efforts to provide exceptional equity plan solutions has been recognized. We will continue to seek our clients' valuable feedback as a mainstay of our service model.”

AST Equity Plan Solutions, a division of American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC (AST), is a leading provider of equity compensation plan administration and part of the LINK Group, an international network of providers of transfer agent and employee plan services. The global network provides plan administration to more than 400 clients with approximately 750,000 participants in over 70 countries. Mark C. Healy, CEO and President of American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, said, — “To earn this recognition in the industry is a direct result of the group of experts we have assembled. I'm honored to have such talented individuals working for our company and servicing our client base.”

GROUP FIVE is a consulting and customer research firm located in Princeton, New Jersey. The firm is best known for its consulting and research expertise in stock plan administration and transfer agent services.

About AST

AST provides comprehensive stock transfer and employee plan services to over 2,800 public companies and maintains approximately 6,000 issues. Its clients are located throughout the United States and in over 22 foreign countries, ranging in size from initial public offerings to Fortune 100 companies. Founded in 1971 and headquartered in New York, AST provides clients with customized solutions along with access to the best systems, services, processes and products available today — around the globe.

Contacts

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC | 888-267-8625 | www.amstock.com