



News Release

November 24, 2009

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC Earns Top Transfer Agent Recognition for Eleventh Consecutive Year

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC ("AST"), the largest independent stock transfer agent in the United States, announced today that they have been rated the top transfer agent for the eleventh year in a row, according to an independent survey conducted by Group Five, Inc. AST achieved an overall client satisfaction rating of 96%, the highest in the industry, which is a 4 percentage point increase from 2008, and 12 percentage points above the industry average of 84. AST is a leader in issuer and shareholder services and is above industry average in all survey areas.

Group Five is a global consulting and marketing information services firm, specializing in shareholder and employee plan services research. Each year Group Five surveys over 1,000,000 shareholders on behalf of corporate issuers, transfer agents and employee plan administrators to determine their level of satisfaction with the service they receive from transfer agents.

On October 19, 2009 AST announced the appointment of Mark Healy as Chief Executive Officer. Mark comes to AST from National Financial Services, a Fidelity Investments company, where he has been an Executive Vice President for over 7 years and has over 28 years of experience in the financial services sector. Mark noted, "We are thrilled with the recent survey results and believe that they are very much reflective of the dedicated efforts of our staff. I am excited to be a part of an organization that focuses on their clients' needs first. AST will maintain our exclusive focus on servicing this business segment and will continue to seek new opportunities to provide innovative services."

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company was founded in 1971 and is headquartered in New York. It services over 2,800 public companies and maintains shareholders' records for approximately 6,000 issues. All aspects of service, including investor relations, reconciliation, corporate actions, print and mail functions are housed in one location, owned by AST.

AST provides comprehensive stock transfer solutions including dividend disbursing, dividend reinvestment plans, restricted stock plans, stock option and employee stock purchase plan administration, proxy services and all types of corporate actions. Debt services include escrow agent, corporate trustee, and investment management services.

Contacts

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