

Collins Stewart adds Lodging, Gaming, Leisure and REITS to U.S. research
Widely Acclaimed Analyst, Bryan Maher is hired as Managing Director to Head New Sector

New York, NY – July 13, 2009 – Collins Stewart, a leading independent financial advisory group, today announced it has hired Bryan Maher as Managing Director to develop and head a Lodging, Gaming, Leisure and REITS research team for the firm's U.S. business. This newly added sector will be based in the firm's New York office.

"The addition of Bryan to our team is reflective of the depth of quality research for which Collins Stewart is known. His research accreditations include having been named the top lodging industry analyst in the U.S. by the **Wall Street Journal** in its annual "*Best on the Street*" analysts survey, in which he was ranked as a top analyst for his lodging and real estate coverage from 2002-2005," said John Abularrage, Chief Executive Officer of Collins Stewart's North American operations. "There is no question that Bryan's expertise will propel the firm's research to the industry forefront in this new sector at Collins Stewart."

The introduction of a Lodging, Gaming, Leisure and REITS sector in the U.S., follows Collins Stewart's recent additions of a U.S. Banks research team in June, and a U.S. and Canadian Oil and Gas analyst in May of this year.

Before joining Collins Stewart, Maher was a Director at RBC Capital Markets in New York, where he was instrumental in building the firm's presence in the lodging and leisure sectors. Prior to RBC, Maher was the Senior Lodging, Gaming and Leisure Analyst at Calyon Securities, formerly known as Credit Lyonnais, from 1999 to 2005. Maher was previously an equity analyst at Deutsche Banc Alex. Brown, and he has also worked for Dean Witter Reynolds and the Trump Organization.

In addition to his financial services industry experience, Maher has nine years of combined operating experience in the Lodging and Gaming industries, including the launch of the Trump Taj Mahal Casino & Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ in 1990.

Maher earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Clemson University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Georgia State University.

Collins Stewart's U.S. equity research also includes: U.S. Banks, U.S. and Canadian Oil & Gas, Technology, Healthcare, Defense & Electronics/Communications and Energy.

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Collins Stewart plc is a leading independent financial advisory group listed on the London Stock Exchange. Collins Stewart plc employs 700 staff in 9 international locations and is organised around four operational divisions: Advisory, Corporate Broking, Securities and Wealth Management, all served by its unique research tool, Quest™. More information at www.collinsstewart.com

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