## Issuer Alert #2006- 002

NASDAO

## NASDAQ Commences Systems Integration on October 16, 2006. New MarketWatch Hours Effective October 30, 2006

## Please Route To: NASDAQ-Listed Companies

NASDAQ is integrating the NASDAQ Market Center, Brut and INET systems into a single book to provide a faster, more efficient trading platform. This systems integration is designed to provide customers with improved execution quality, while ensuring that all the featured attributes of the NASDAQ Market Center are maintained. This integration will benefit investors by creating a single pool of liquidity, thereby increasing order interaction and execution speed.

NASDAQ's systems integration is scheduled in a phased approach expected to start on October 16, 2006, with 20 NASDAQ securities. From there the rollout is expected to continue with additional securities on October 23 and be completed on October 30.

The systems integration will extend trading hours for NASDAQ securities.

New NASDAQ trading hours will be:

7:00 a.m. ET - 9:30 a.m. ET	Pre-Market
9:30 a.m. ET – 4:00 p.m. ET	Regular Market
4:00 p.m. ET – 8:00 p.m. ET	After-Hours

Upon completion of the systems integration, NASDAQ's MarketWatch Department will be available between 6:30 a.m. ET and 8:00 p.m. ET. NASDAQ companies will still be required to notify MarketWatch prior to the disclosure of certain material news announcements, as usual. Material disclosures can be submitted directly to MarketWatch 24-hours a day through the electronic disclosure submission service accessible to authorized users at <u>www.NASDAQ.net</u>. Please contact your NASDAQ Relationship Manager to gain access to this submission service. If you are unable to submit the material disclosure electronically, companies may also provide prior notification by fax or phone.

**IMPORTANT NOTE**: Currently, MarketWatch implements temporary trading halts, when appropriate, for dissemination of material news beginning at 8:00 a.m. ET and through the afterhours trading session until 6:30 p.m. ET. With the new extended trading hours, NASDAQ MarketWatch will be authorized to implement temporary trading halts, when appropriate, for material news disseminated between 7:00 a.m. ET and 8:00 p.m. ET. MarketWatch trading halt evaluations for the new trading hours will commence upon final implementation of the systems integration, which is currently scheduled to occur on October 30, 2006.

Questions: Contact NASDAQ MarketWatch at 800.537.3929 or 301.978.8500.

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