

**STANDARD
& POOR'S**

Press Release



Financial Software Firm to Take Advantage of CUSIP NOW Service

QED Financial Systems to receive FTP file downloads of newly issued securities registered with the CUSIP Service Bureau every 15 minutes

NEW YORK, August 14, 2007 – The CUSIP Service Bureau (CSB), the leading provider of unique issuer and instrument identifiers, today announced that QED Financial Systems has contracted to use CUSIP NOW, the CSB's innovative service that delivers new CUSIP issues and reference data to market participants every 15 minutes. CUSIP is a unique, intelligent, 9-digit identifier permanently assigned to individual securities and their issuers.

With new securities entering the market thousands of times every business day, CUSIP NOW utilizes FTP "push" technology to make this information quickly available to market participants. The CUSIP global numbering system allows the markets to communicate effectively and enables the efficient and accurate processing of securities during the lifetime of an issue. As new securities come to market, QED customers will be able to identify the new securities and set them up within their securities warehouse for immediate use by their clients.

"CSB has recognized the need for a coordinated overall response to client challenges in this dynamic market environment," said Jim Taylor, Managing Director for Standard & Poor's, which operates the CUSIP Service Bureau for the American Bankers Association. "QED's customers will be able to use CUSIP NOW to maintain a competitive edge, with the basic building blocks required to communicate new issue information in today's marketplace."

"We at QED recognize the importance of quality data and how it impacts the accuracy of investment accounting results and financial reporting," said Michael Dowd, QED Senior Vice President of Operations. "We are committed to providing our clients with value-added services that streamline their investment operations, and the CUSIP NOW service is a perfect complement to our Q2 Investment Workflow System."

CUSIP NOW includes corporate debt and equity issues, as well as competitive and negotiated municipal bond offerings that are registered with the CSB. The service is particularly timely for the bond markets given recently shortened MSRB (Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board) and TRACE (Trade Reporting and Compliance Engine) trade reporting timeframes. For additional information, please e-mail sp_marketing@standardandpoors.com.

About the CUSIP Service Bureau

The CUSIP Service Bureau (CSB) is dedicated to driving efficient trading, clearing and settlement of financial instruments throughout capital markets worldwide. CSB enables enormous efficiencies and cost savings by providing a unique common language for handling instruments across institutions, exchanges and nations, and originates over 70% of all identifiers used in securities transactions. With nearly 40 years of experience, CSB is operated for the American Bankers Association by Standard & Poor's, two leading organizations dedicated to promoting strength and profitability of the global financial services industry. For more information, visit www.cusip.com

About QED Financial Systems

QED Financial Systems, Inc. is the premier provider of portfolio management and investment accounting solutions to asset managers, pension funds, investment advisors, public treasuries, and other buy-side firms. QED manages more than 1 trillion USD in collective assets, and nearly 50% of the U.S. state treasuries use QED solutions. QED offers LAN- and ASP-based software solutions for streamlining back-office operations. Additionally, QED's Accounting Services division is a leading provider of portfolio management and investment accounting outsourcing solutions.

About Standard & Poor's

Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies (NYSE:MHP), is the world's foremost provider of financial market intelligence, including independent credit ratings, indices, risk evaluation, investment research and data. With approximately 8,500 employees, including wholly owned affiliates, located in 21 countries, Standard & Poor's is an essential part of the world's financial infrastructure and has played a leading role for more than 140 years in providing investors with the independent benchmarks they need to feel more confident about their investment and financial decisions. For more information, visit www.standardandpoors.com.

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