



D'Aquila To Participate As Panelist At Minnesota Venture Capital Conference

MINNEAPOLIS — May 8, 2002 — Jim D'Aquila will join several other distinguished speakers and panelists at the Minnesota Venture Capital Conference and Bleeding Edge Technology Showcase presented by Net-Suds.com and sponsored by Messerli & Kramer and KPMG.

Other panelists and speakers scheduled to participate include:

- Dr. Mark Bendett, President, CEO, Chairman and Founder of Northstar Photonics
- Allen Dines, Assistant Director of University-Industry Relations, University of Wisconsin
- Doug Johnson, Director of the New Business Development Enterprise at the Carlson School of Management
- Bill Joos, Vice President of Entrepreneur Development at Garage Technology Ventures
- Timothy Kraskey, Managing Director, YankeeTek Ventures
- Jim Leslie, CEO of Midwave
- Andrew Odlyzko, Director of the Digital Technology Center, Assistant VP for Research, Professor of Mathematics, University of Minnesota
- Brett Shockley, CEO of Spanlink Communications
- Dave Stassen, General Partner, St. Paul Venture Capital
- Dan Ryan, Senior VP, Corporate and Business Development at Stellant
- Dr. Gretchen Unger, President of GeneSegues

Investors scheduled to participate include:

- Buzz Benson, Managing Director, Piper Jaffray Ventures
- Dan Broderick, Managing Director, Mason Wells Private Equity
- Kyle Crowe, Managing Director, Greene Holcombe & Fisher
- John Deedrick, Venture Manager, Mayo Medical Ventures
- Trevor D'Souza, Managing Director, Mason Wells Private Equity
- Joe Jasper, VP, Aethlon Capital
- Kevin T. Hennessey, Venture Manager, Mayo Medical Ventures
- Timothy Kraskey, Managing Director, YankeeTek Ventures
- Brad Lehrman, President, Portage Capital
- Jerry Mattys, Angel Investor, Timm Medical Technologies (CEO)
- Art Monaghan, Principal, Norwest Equity Partners
- Bea Rothweiler, Executive Vice President, Portage Capital
- Courtney Russell, General Partner, Weston Presidio Capital
- Nathan Stacy, Venture Associate, Mayo Medical Ventures
- Dave Stassen, General Partner, St. Paul Venture Capital
- Jeffrey Torborg, Venture Associate, Mayo Medical Ventures
- Loren Unterseher, Principal, ThinkEquity Partners

The Mercanti Group

Page 2 of 2

- Dan Arlandson, Analyst, Validus Partners
- Cathy Harms, Angel Investor, St. Paul Capital Fund
- Michael J. Harris, Partner, Validus Partners
- Matt Kinley, SVP, Pappajohn Capital Resources
- Jess Lewis, Senior Technical Analyst, Validus Partners
- Scott Pancoast, Executive VP, Western States Investment Group
- Art Rosenberg, President, Renaissance Ventures
- Jade Sadosty, Venture Associate, Mayo Medical Ventures
- Christopher Volker, Principal, The Mercanti Group
- Tom Von Kuster, Angel Investor, AMEX, Inc.

About The Mercanti Group

The Mercanti Group is a results-oriented boutique financial advisory firm that embraces a fierce commitment to client service and provides creative Merger & Acquisition, Capital Raising and Strategic Advisory solutions to small and middle market companies, private equity firms and individual business owners in the consumer, health care, technology, software, business services and manufacturing industries. Over the last three decades, the professionals of Mercanti gained a wealth of Wall Street experience while they were partners together at a few of the largest and most admired multi-national investment banks. Mercanti offers companies that are increasingly ignored by Wall Street the expertise and capabilities of a large investment bank with the focus, attention and energy of a small entrepreneurial firm. Mercanti Securities, LLC, member NASD/SIPC and a subsidiary of The Mercanti Group, enables Mercanti to compete with larger investment banks and provide a broad range of customized financial advisory services and transaction structures. Mercanti has offices in Minneapolis and Los Angeles. If you would like more information on The Mercanti Group, please visit the Web at www.mercantigroup.com, or contact a Mercanti professional at 612.333.0130 (Minneapolis) or 310.444.0130 (Los Angeles).