

ENERGY AND PETROLEUM ADDED TO COLLINS STEWART'S US RESEARCH LINE-UP Noted Industry Veterans Pacanovsky and Rossi Boost Firm's Energy Coverage

New York, NY – June 9, 2008 – Collins Stewart, a leading independent investment banking group, today announced the addition of a new research group to focus on small and mid-capitalization Energy and Petroleum (E&P) companies. The firm's E&P research team includes, Kim Pacanovsky, Ph. D. and Richard Rossi, who have been appointed as senior analysts at the firm.

"The addition of E&P coverage at Collins Stewart further builds out our existing energy research capabilities, which also include alternative energy," said Shawn McLoughlin, CEO and President of Collins Stewart's North American operations. "As energy continues to be an area of significant global focus, we're very pleased to add the expertise of Kim Pacanovsky and Richard Rossi to broaden our team's coverage in this critical sector."

The expansion of the energy team underscores a period of strategic development at Collins Stewart in the U.S. during 2008. The firm recently added Internet and media coverage to its research lineup, as well as a China investment banking division. Other sectors covered by the firm's highly regarded research team include technology, healthcare and defense and diversified technology. In recent news, analysts at Collins Stewart were recognized for their outstanding research and stockpicking performance in ranking surveys conducted by **The Wall Street Journal**, the **Financial Times** and **Forbes.com**.

Prior to joining Collins Stewart, Dr. Pacanovsky worked as a senior analyst in the E&P sector for ten years at GBI Capital Partners, KeyBanc Capital Markets and, most recently, Ferris Baker Watts. In addition to E&P research, her past experience includes oilfield services and analysis of oil and gas inventories and commodity pricing. Dr. Pacanovsky holds a Ph. D. in Geophysics from State University of New York at Stony Brook and a B.S. degree in Physics from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Mr. Rossi brings 35 years of research experience to the firm, with a robust background in industrial and engineering firms and construction companies, in addition to his E&P expertise. Prior to Collins Stewart, he worked as an analyst at Merrill Lynch and Dean Witter and held senior analyst positions at WertheimSchroder, ING, ABN, Morgan Joseph and, most recently, Ferris Baker Watts. Mr. Rossi has received numerous industry honors for his research work including recognition in **Institutional Investor's** "All Star" analyst ranking, as well as inclusion in **Forbes.com's** "Best Analysts" survey.

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About Collins Stewart plc

Collins Stewart plc is a leading independent investment banking group with offices in 12 geographies worldwide including; London, New York, Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Dublin, Paris, Geneva, Singapore, Tel Aviv, Mumbai and Tokyo.

With over 700 employees, the Group is organised around four operational divisions; advisory, capital markets, securities and wealth management. All are serviced by Collins Stewart's unique research tool, Quest™.

Collins Stewart is the top fundraiser on London's Alternative Investment Market (AIM), raising £1.3 billion in 2007. The Group's Wealth Management division manages and advises in excess of £4 billion of assets and is the largest investment manager and stockbroker in the Channel Islands. Through its advisory division, Collins Stewart is one of the leading independent corporate finance firms in Europe.

www.collinsstewart.com

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