

## **NEAR EARTH LLC TAPS FORMER ANALYST JOHN L. STONE FOR BANKING EFFORT, RAMIN KHADEM AND JEREMY ROSE JOIN ADVISORY BOARD**

*December 12, 2004 (New Canaan, CT; New York, NY);* Near Earth LLC, a boutique investment bank focusing on satellite-related industries ([www.nearearth.biz](http://www.nearearth.biz)), announced that John L. Stone, formerly a highly regarded Wall Street satellite analyst, is the latest senior industry professional to join the firm as it seeks to build the world's premier space-related investment banking business. Near Earth CEO, Hoyt Davidson stated, "John brings a wealth of industry experience to our team. We are delighted he has joined us."

Immediately prior to joining Near Earth, Mr. Stone worked in the corporate finance unit of National Securities, where he was involved in sourcing, banking and distribution of private placements for early stage technology companies. From 2000 to 2002, he worked as a senior equity and debt analyst at Ladenburg Thalmann and Company covering the satellite and cable broadcasting sectors. Prior to working in finance, he was employed as a senior project engineer with Boeing, Hughes Electronics, General Dynamics and Computer Sciences Corporation. Mr. Stone holds an MBA from UCLA's Anderson Graduate School of Management, a Master's of Science in Astronomy from the University of Maryland, and a Bachelors of Science in Physics from the University of Rochester.

Separately, Near Earth also announced the addition of two leading industry figures to its advisory board.

- **Mr. Ramin Khadem**, Former CFO of Inmarsat, now acting as advisor in the satellite sector and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the International Space University based in Strasbourg, France.
- **Mr. Jeremy Rose**, Senior Consultant, Comsys, a leading UK-based telecom and satellite consultancy. Jeremy is a widely renown expert on mobile and television satellite systems and services, such as low and medium earth orbit (LEO MEO) systems, satellite news-gathering (SNG) and broadcasting.

Near Earth President, J. Armand Musey stated, "We are very pleased that Mr. Khadem and Mr. Rose will be joining us. We believe their industry expertise and contacts will be very useful in serving our clients and helping us to grow our business." Mr. Khadem and Mr. Rose bring the Near Earth Advisory Board to nine members. The other members are, Mr. Terry Hart, Mr. Charles "Chuck" Hewitt, Erik Le Proux De La Riviere, Andrew McSpadden, Marshall "Mark" Pagon, Jimmy Schaeffer and Phil Spector.

### **About Near Earth LLC:**

Near Earth LLC is an NASD registered broker dealer focused on satellite and related industries. It is involved in a range of financial activities including Private Placements, Mergers and Acquisitions, Valuations and Fairness Opinions, Strategic and Financial Consulting and Expert Witness Testimony.

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