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## **NEW FIRM CREATES FINANCIAL MARKETPLACE ON THE WEB**

SpringboardCapital.com establishes an  
online community of high net worth investors to provide private  
equity funding quality pre-IPO companies

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**Laguna Beach, Calif., April 17, 2000** – SpringboardCapital.com, Inc. (also “Springboard”), a company using the Internet to create a new private equity marketplace to serve the needs of high net worth investors and established businesses, announced its official launch today. Leveraging the efficiency and interactive qualities of the Internet, Springboard has established a community of accredited investors - individuals with more than \$1 million in assets - and will bring to them qualified private equity investment opportunities in pre-IPO companies seeking funding in the \$1-10 million range. Both populations today are under-served by traditional sources of private equity financing.

High net worth individual investors represent about 5 percent of U.S. households yet hold about 66 percent of our nation’s assets, according to SEC data. Also, according to IRS and SEC data, the small business sector in the United States comprises about 400,000 companies employing 35 million people, and together these companies have \$2 trillion in book assets. Traditional sources of private equity funding - investment banks and venture capitalists - currently serve only about 2 percent of their financing needs.

To create this new financial marketplace, SpringboardCapital.com combines attributes of an investment bank with those of an Internet investor community and seeks to apply more order to private capital investing - previously a comparatively unregulated activity. All activities relating to the purchase or sale of securities, including the qualification of and offerings to accredited investors, will be conducted by a wholly-owned broker-dealer subsidiary of Springboard that is expected to be announced soon.

“The private capital markets have been effectively closed to most individual investors, even those with relatively high net worth,” said Springboard’s founder and chief executive officer, Ron Dunham, “IPOs are nearly impossible to get at the offering price unless you’re an institutional investor or one of the underwriters top 20 clients. Our service was designed to connect the accredited investor with information about extraordinary companies in the emerging markets BEFORE they go public.”

SpringboardCapital.com is a ‘virtual community’ brokerage in which interested qualified investors can interact not only with the issuing company principals but, just as importantly, with each other - traditionally Wall Street has not encouraged individual investors to talk to each other, we believe the demonstrated power of the Internet is precisely to help individuals communicate about investment

opportunities in new ways.

Springboard is a new kind of financial services company that uses the Internet to create a private equity capital marketplace where a community of high net worth investors can provide financing in the \$1-10 million range to established private growth companies. SpringboardCapital.com is located at 1060 N. Coast Highway, Laguna Beach CA 92629 and can be reached at (949) 376-2006 or visit Springboard on the Internet @ [www.springboardcompanies.com](http://www.springboardcompanies.com).

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