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## **Catalyst!House™ and First Charter Announce MOU and Intent TO Merge**

October 14, 2001 Las Vegas, Nevada -- Catalyst House announced today that it has formed a strategic alliance with First Charter Investment Corporation (FCIC) of Del Ray Beach, FL, an international capital-formation consultant and merchant banker. As a result of the alliance, both companies will identify and evaluate business opportunities upon which to collaborate. Both companies will also assist each other on select client capitalization efforts.

FCIC President, Lynn Rowntree, described the new working relationship with Catalyst House as "an alliance with impeccable timing. FCIC is currently involved in a number of projects in the entertainment and technology sectors we are very excited to have the opportunity to tap the extensive resources of Catalyst House to support these projects. We are also anxious to utilize our capital formation expertise to assist Catalyst House in fulfilling its objectives."

Mr. Rowntree commented that under the terms of the confidential MOU, FCIC will ultimately acquire Catalyst House and its assets, which include its exceptional client portfolio, consulting revenues, and holdings in approximately a dozen companies, for an undisclosed amount of cash and FCIC stock.

FCIC's expertise is derived from over 100 years of combined financial communications and management with extensive backgrounds in investment banking, security analysis, portfolio management, stock brokerage and management consulting. FCIC functions as a full services financial communications firm that is also capable of advising senior management on a broad spectrum of financial and market related issues. The Company has created an efficient new system for assisting the capitalization of privately held emerging growth companies. First Charter's fees are less than traditional venture capitalists and incubator companies who typically require controlling interest or significant ownership of their client companies for rendering similar services.

Catalyst!House™, a Springboard Capital Group affiliate, is an international strategic-teaming consultant - services that Catalyst!House™ arranges for

its clients include broker-dealer and capital formation introductions, business opportunities, buyer and distributor relations, introduction of prospective strategic partners and affiliates, and debt, equity, and hybrid business finance. Catalyst!House™ is dedicated to building, expanding, and maintaining global markets for small and medium-sized enterprises with an emphasis on emerging technologies and sustainable enterprise. Since its inception in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, Catalyst!House™ Associates have assisted in the provision of over \$25 million in debt and equity to emerging technology and sustainable business enterprises. A Catalyst!House™ newsletter and client portfolio is available on request.

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