

Collins Stewart broadens Healthcare research with new Biotechnology Team

Salveen Kochnover Joins Firm as Senior Analyst and Brent Kelly Joins Firm as Senior Associate

New York, NY – June 25, 2008 – Collins Stewart, a leading independent investment bank, today announced its expansion of the firm's U.S.-based healthcare research sector with the addition of Salveen Kochnover as Senior Analyst and Brent Kelly as Senior Associate. Kochnover and Kelly will cover a diverse group of small to large-cap biotechnology companies.

"Collins Stewart continues to look for opportunities to expand our business in North America and broaden our range of products and services for our clients," said Shawn McLoughlin, CEO and President of Collins Stewart's North American operations. "Biotechnology research coverage and the addition of Salveen's and Brent's expertise are important steps in the execution of Collins Stewart's plan to continue to provide the highest quality of research on the Street."

Collins Stewart's healthcare research sector also includes coverage of medical devices. In addition to healthcare, the firm's highly regarded research analysts also cover defense and diversified technology, energy and technology.

Kochnover joins Collins Stewart from Jefferies & Company where she was a senior biotechnology analyst. Prior to that, she was an analyst with Aequitas Group, a healthcare consulting firm. Kochnover received a bachelor of science degree in biomedical and electrical engineering from Johns Hopkins University and she is a Chartered Financial Analyst charterholder.

Prior to Collins Stewart, Kelly worked at Jefferies & Company as a senior research associate in biotechnology and at Prudential Equity Group as a research associate in biotechnology. Kelly received a Ph.D in neuroscience from Northwestern University Medical School and a bachelor of science degree in biology from Indiana University.

Both Kochnover and Kelly will work in the firm's New York City office.

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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.

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