

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STIFEL NICOLAUS ADDS CLEANTECH INVESTMENT BANKING

ST. LOUIS, March 3, 2010 – Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated is pleased to announce that Shez Bandukwala has joined the firm’s Investment Banking Group as head of its Cleantech Investment Banking Team, reporting to Victor Nesi, Director of Investment Banking and Co-Director of Capital Markets. Mr. Bandukwala was previously group head of the Greentech & Alternative Energy practice at ThinkEquity LLC. Joining Mr. Bandukwala’s team are two other former ThinkEquity cleantech bankers.

Mr. Bandukwala has 17 years of banking and financial industry experience. Prior to ThinkEquity, Mr. Bandukwala was an investment banker at William Blair & Company for 10 years, where he was a Principal in Corporate Finance and focused on business development and leading execution teams. Mr. Bandukwala has advised his clients on approximately 80 public and private financings, mergers, and acquisitions representing over \$6.5 billion in transaction value. Mr. Bandukwala has been a guest speaker at over 40 industry conferences addressing trends in cleantech and alternative energy, the IPO process, capital raising, valuation issues, and merger methodologies. He received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois in 1988 and a M.B.A., with distinction, from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University in 1992.

Mr. Nesi said, “The addition of these bankers evidences an important commitment on the part of Stifel Nicolaus to continue building our Investment Banking business in high growth sectors.”

“Stifel Nicolaus’ platform offers a wonderful opportunity for our team,” said Mr. Bandukwala. “The ability to bring a wide range of full-service capabilities to the diverse capital needs of cleantech companies will enable us to make an impact in the sector. Additionally, the combination of the firm’s highly regarded research with deep institutional and retail distribution will allow us to take this franchise to a new level.”

Founded in 1890, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated is the principal subsidiary of Stifel Financial Corp. (NYSE: SF), a financial services holding company headquartered in St. Louis. Stifel Nicolaus is a full-service retail and institutional brokerage and investment banking firm with 294 offices in 42 states and the District of Columbia and 3 European offices through Stifel Nicolaus Limited. To learn more about Stifel, please visit the company’s web site at www.stifel.com.

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