

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS

Contact: Natalie Taylor
213-688-8008

**WEDBUSH EXPANDS CLEAN TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL GROWTH FRANCHISE
WITH TWO ADDITIONAL SENIOR INVESTMENT BANKING HIRES**

LOS ANGELES, CA (October 30, 2009) – Wedbush Securities has made two additional senior Investment Banking hires in their Clean Technology and Industrial Growth sector practice, part of their continuing initiative to grow the top Investment Banking franchise in this sector. Brian Sapp has joined as a Managing Director and will be responsible for key franchises in Wedbush's Clean Technology practice, including smart grid and storage. Bill Cooper has joined as a Senior Vice President and will be responsible for coverage of a number of key segments in Wedbush's Industrial Growth practice. Both Mr. Sapp and Mr. Cooper will be based out of Wedbush's San Francisco office.

Mr. Sapp was most recently a Director in the communications practice of the Technology Investment Banking group at Thomas Weisel Partners (TWP). Prior to TWP, he held senior investment banking positions with SVB Alliant and Pacific Growth Equities where he focused on Clean Technology and related hardware sectors. Sapp earned a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Pennsylvania State University and a M.B.A. in Finance from Cornell University.

Mr. Cooper has a wide range of experience covering Industrials, MedTech, Services and Technology. He previously held senior roles at Seven Hills where he focused on small to mid-cap advisory services including M&A and private financings. Prior to Seven Hills, he worked in the Corporate Finance, Merchant Banking and Technology groups at ABN Amro, WR Hambrecht+Co and Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette. Mr. Cooper earned a B.A. degree in Economics from Harvard University.

"We continue to build one of the top Clean Technology and Industrial Growth franchises on Wall Street. Brian Sapp and Bill Cooper are two exceptionally talented senior bankers who will deepen our existing sector practice, led by Duncan Williams. We believe that, as the Clean Technology and Industrial Growth sectors converge, Wedbush is positioned to become the leading investment bank for both established and emerging growth companies, across all areas of corporate finance and advisory. Attracting the experienced talent of Brian and Bill is a key part of this strategy as we continue to build our Equities and Investment Banking sector practice. We are excited about these two key additions to the team and look forward to introducing them at our Annual Clean Technology and Industrial Growth Investor Conference in San Francisco on November 2nd and 3rd," stated Thomas Dietz, Head of Investment Banking at Wedbush Securities.

About Wedbush Securities

Founded in 1955, Wedbush Securities is a leading financial services and investment firm that provides private and institutional brokerage, correspondent clearing, investment banking, equities research, public finance, fixed income sales and trading, and asset management to individual, institutional and issuing clients. Headquartered in Los Angeles, with over 80 sales offices and over 100 correspondent offices nationwide, Wedbush focuses on client financial safety, continuity, and advanced technology.