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WEDBUSH RESEARCH DOMINATES BARRON'S-ZACKS 2011 TOP STOCK PICKERS

- Tops all 3 eligible categories in Barron's-Zacks ranking of Wall Street focus lists
- Wedbush 'Best Ideas List' performance "surfed to top honors by wide margins"
- Proven track record of timely insights and excellent research

LOS ANGELES, CA – February 7, 2012 – Wedbush Securities, one of the nation's leading financial services and equity research providers, has been ranked the top stock picking firm in three out of four categories of the <u>semi-annual Barron's-Zacks ranking</u> of Wall Street stock-focus lists.

The rankings, published this past Saturday by *Barron's*, indicate that despite a tumultuous year for the markets and the overarching concerns surrounding the U.S. economy and European debt crisis, the <u>Wedbush Best Ideas</u> <u>List</u> "surfed to top honors by wide margins" with dominating positive returns for the 6 month, 1 year and 3 year categories. The "List" is a dynamic, actively monitored selection of 10-20 companies under <u>Wedbush coverage</u> that analysts anticipate having a 20% return over the forward six to twelve months (with risk adjusted parameters selected by an oversight committee).

"The performance shows we have achieved our main goal – to have a list that reflects the focus, breadth and depth of our high quality research efforts," stated Sheri Kaiserman, Head of Equities at Wedbush Securities. "We offer deep intelligence in four verticals that have high information flow, giving us the ability to provide money making ideas resulting from our differential proprietary research, as well as some diversification across the economy."

Wedbush has been ranked at the top of *Barron's-Zacks* lists for three years running. In 2010 they were awarded the 6 month and 1 year categories, and in 2009 were awarded the 6 month. The firm and its team of analysts have consistently ranked among the top of other industry leading surveys such as *The Wall Street Journal* - 2011 Best on the Street, *Starmine* - 2010 U.S. Top Analysts and 2010 Analyst Performance Survey, and *Forbes* - 2010 Best Brokerage Analysts.

"I'm not the least bit surprised with the results of our Research Team's efforts, "stated Gary Wedbush, Executive Vice President and Head of Capital Markets for Wedbush Securities. "We have incredibly smart and extremely hard-working professionals driven by the singular focus of helping our clients make money."

About Wedbush Securities

Founded in 1955, Wedbush Securities is a leading investment firm that provides brokerage, clearing, investment banking, equity research, public finance, fixed income sales and trading, and asset management to individual, institutional and issuing clients. Headquartered in Los Angeles, with over 100 offices, the firm focuses on relentless service, client financial safety, continuity, and advanced technology. Wedbush Securities is the largest subsidiary of holding company WEDBUSH, Inc., which also includes affiliated firms Wedbush Bank, Wedbush Capital Partners, Wedbush Opportunity Partners, and Lime Brokerage LLC.

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