

Catalyst/Hall Expands to Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex

Dallas, Texas, August 6, 2003 -- Catalyst/Hall, one of Houston's most established and recognized private equity firms, is opening its doors in Dallas/Fort Worth. Although this is its first office in the Metroplex, Catalyst/Hall has been involved and invested with several firms in the Dallas/ Ft. Worth area since its inception in 1990. A full time office will bring a greater focus to the area and allow Catalyst/Hall to better serve the capital requirements of middle market businesses based in the Metroplex.

Catalyst/Hall's investments will continue to focus on manufacturing, distribution, health care, service and information technology, with investments ranging from \$1 million to \$10 million in a single company. Catalyst/Hall invests in mid-market companies with \$10 million to \$100 million in revenue that are primarily later-stage, with flexible terms structured as mezzanine debt or preferred or common stock. They seek to partner with exceptional management teams and add value by providing a balanced outside perspective.

Catalyst/Hall is expanding in Texas for several reasons, according to Roger Linn, managing partner in the Dallas office. "We believe Texas is poised to take advantage of the economic recovery and our expanded capital base offers businesses an opportunity to expand during the recovery. Dallas/Fort Worth has a large group of attractive middle market companies that now have an additional capital source".

About Catalyst/Hall

Catalyst/Hall provides capital to companies to fund internal growth, make acquisitions, and perform management buyouts and recapitalizations. In addition to the Houston and Dallas offices, Catalyst/Hall has professionals in Oklahoma City and Chicago.

Catalyst/Hall specializes in providing value-added mezzanine and equity capital to middle market companies. The firm manages \$150 million of committed capital from its investment partners. With offices in Houston, Dallas, Chicago and Oklahoma City, Catalyst/Hall provides experience, analytical resources and outside perspective to support their portfolio companies to optimize operating results and value appreciation.

Catalyst/Hall is a partnership between The Catalyst Group, Inc. of Houston, and Hall Brothers Holdings (HBH) of Oklahoma City. The Catalyst Group has managed private equity and mezzanine funds since 1990 with investments in over 50 companies in a broad range of industries. HBH is a private investment firm specializing in middle market equity and mezzanine investments, with offices in Oklahoma City, Chicago and Houston.