

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montag & Caldwell Announces Employee-Led Buyout

August 3, 2010 – Atlanta, Georgia – The employees of Montag & Caldwell, an investment management firm founded in 1945 specializing in growth equity investing with \$14 Billion under management, today announced their agreement to buy the Company from BNP Paribas Fortis. Upon closing, employees will own 100% of the firm. Specific terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

In an outstanding display of continuity and enthusiasm for the transaction, every Officer of the Company including Portfolio Management, Research, Marketing and Trading, is participating and will be owners of the firm going forward. Ron Canakaris, the Company's Chairman and Chief Investment Officer, said "the entire team at Montag & Caldwell is extremely pleased to be the proud owners of this quality franchise, and we look forward to continuing to add value to our clients' portfolios. We have always operated as a close-knit, independent and rather autonomous unit which will only be strengthened under the new structure. All 49 of our employees are highly motivated and enthusiastic about this transaction."

"Our mission is to provide superior investment returns and the highest quality of service to our clients," said Bill Vogel, Chief Executive Officer at Montag & Caldwell. "We are very excited to announce this employee-led buyout, which is a reflection of our entire team's commitment to that mission."

Financial Adviser to Management was Keith Mitchell of Mitchell Hartley Advisers. For more information or to speak to Mssrs. Canakaris and Vogel, please contact Amiee Watts at 973-784-0025 or amiee@jcprinc.com or Bill Long at 404-836-7161 or blong@montag.com.

About Montag & Caldwell

Montag & Caldwell has a long history of providing superior investment results and exceptional client service. The Company credits this record to its experienced and long-tenured team of professionals employing a consistent and disciplined investment process. Today, Montag & Caldwell manages large and mid-cap growth, balanced and fixed income strategies, through separately managed accounts and mutual funds. The Company serves a wide range of institutional and individual clients including retirement plans, endowment funds and foundations, state and local governments, hospitals, insurance companies, and Taft-Hartley funds.