



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Institutional Cash Distributors (ICD) Client Assets Surge Following
Government Actions and Platform Enhancements**

SAN FRANCISCO – March 3, 2009 – Institutional Cash Distributors (“ICD”), a premier broker of money funds, announced today that it has surpassed the \$48 billion mark in funds brokered on behalf of its clients, representing more than 100% growth year-over-year.

“ICD’s growth can be attributed to our client loyalty, an expanded and dedicated sales team, and a market response to government programs supporting money funds,” said Tom Newton, co-founder of ICD. “We have had tremendous success with our three different platforms - the traditional ICD broker-dealer cleared platform; ICD bank custody platform; and a re-tooled ICD Direct platform that will fit the needs of any corporate cash manager. ICD continues to expand its sales force as the talent pool remains strong due to the recent bank mergers.”

Industry expert Peter Crane of Crane Data adds, “Online money fund trading portals have contributed to the dramatic growth of the institutional money market mutual fund business by offering convenience and an expanded fund selection to large investors. ICD has been among the leaders in this rapidly expanding space.”

ICD was launched as a division of Merriman Curhan Ford in May 2003. The division was co-founded by Edwin P. Baldry, Jeffrey C. Jellison and Thomas P. Newton. Baldry and Newton, along with Mason Martin, ICD’s Director of Operations, were all previously with Deutsche Asset Management / Scudder Investments. Jellison was formerly with JP Morgan and MidAtlantic / Sunguard. Merriman sold ICD to its founders in January 2009. ICD will continue to work with Merriman as a client under various service agreements.

About Institutional Cash Distributors (ICD)

Institutional Cash Distributors (“ICD”) is a premier broker of money funds serving the short-term investing needs of corporate finance departments at companies throughout the United States. Companies using ICD’s services receive access to a comprehensive product line of over 50 different fund family options through ICD’s one-stop process. That process includes one application, one wire and one statement consolidating reporting regardless of the number of funds utilized. Further information about ICD’s services can be found at www.icdfunds.com or by contacting Mason Martin at 1-800-611-4ICD. ICD is a member of FINRA and SIPC.

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