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For Immediate Release:

CARIS & COMPANY APPOINTS CRAIG A. ELLIS HEAD OF TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

Del Mar, CA March 23, 2009– Caris & Company announced today the appointment of Craig Ellis as Head of Technology Research and Senior Semiconductor Analyst. Mr. Ellis will be based out of the investment bank’s San Francisco office.

“Craig is a game changing addition to Caris & Company, having been a leading Semiconductor analyst and key member of Citi’s top rated Technology team,” said Darren Caris, Chairman and CEO. “We have one simple goal, to make money for our clients. To do this, we strive to collate Wall Streets’ top thinkers into a collaborative environment where our clients can leverage the deep domain expertise of each of our analysts, and the team as a whole. Craig brings deep domain expertise and unmatched leadership skills to our Technology team, and firm as a whole.” Mr. Caris added that this hire would augment the firm’s commitment to become Wall Street’s top research oriented boutique investment bank, and enhance the Company’s research effort.

Craig A. Ellis Biography

Craig is Head of Technology Research at Caris and Company and is the firm’s Senior Semiconductor Analyst. He comes to Caris from Citi, where most recently he led the firm’s Specialty Semiconductor franchise since 2004. The team frequently attained top-5 rankings in Greenwich Associates’ annual survey, placing 2nd and 3rd in 2008 in Analog and Communications IC’s, respectively. Further, the franchise was a key part of Citi’s third-ranked Institutional Investor Semiconductor team in 2007 and 2008 and Citi’s top-ranked Institutional Investor Technology Team in 2008. Prior to Semiconductors Craig covered Imaging Technology in 2002 and 2003, ranking third in Institutional Investor’s 2003 All-America Research Team. From 2003 through 2008 he frequently garnered Citi’s coveted “Stock Call of the Month” award for accurate and impactful stock calls. He began his Citi career on the II-ranked Enterprise Hardware team in

2000 and 2001 after coming to Wall Street via Shroders' II-ranked Energy team in 1997, becoming that firm's Independent Refiners analyst in 1999.

As a set-up to his four-sector sell-side career he enjoyed 10 years at Chevron Corporation in Strategy and Finance roles, cultivating expertise in planning and execution, business process restructuring, and cross-functional team leadership.

Mr. Ellis graduated from Montana State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business with a major in Finance and minor in Economics. He holds the Series 7, 24, 63, 86 and 87 securities registrations.

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About Caris & Company

Established in 2002, Caris & Company is a full service investment bank that services Wall Street's institutional investment community by providing differentiated, collaborative, alpha generating ideas. Headquartered in Del Mar, CA, Caris & Company has offices in New York, San Francisco, and Boston. The firm's research product includes coverage in the following areas: Pharmaceuticals, Specialty Pharma, Biotechnology, Medical Devices, Medical Diagnostics, Healthcare IT, Semiconductors, Semi-Cap Equipment, Hardware, Storage, Media, Refining, Coal, Home Furnishings, Specialty Retail, Consumer Electronics, and Action Sports Retailers.

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