

## For Immediate Release

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## U.S. BANCORP PIPER JAFFRAY DEPLOYS NETCHEMISTRY'S ONLINE DIRECTED SHARE PLATFORM

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif., November 12, 2001 - NetChemistry, a top-tier provider of mission-critical, highly secure Private and Public Offering platforms to the Financial Services Sector, today announced that U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray (USBPJ) has successfully launched NetChemistry's Directed Share Platform for the online distribution, tracking and management of the firm's investment banking corporate clients. USBPJ Corporate Client Services offers a complete outsourced directed-share solution for the firm's lead-managed and co-managed initial public offerings.

"With NetChemistry's Directed Share Platform we are better able to serve the dynamic needs of the firm's investment banking clients," said Robert A. Wolter, West Coast Regional Director of USBPJ. "The DSP will definitely allow us to distribute directed share offerings easier, faster and more accurately."

"Our goal has always been to help Broker/Dealers reduce the cost of raising capital and better access their investors during the offering process," said Chris Cruttenden, president of NetChemistry. "We've also reduced the liability associated with investor communication by strictly controlling who the investor is, what information they are allowed to access and when they are allowed to access it. In addition, we know when the investor has received alerts and all their activity relating to a particular deal."

## **About the Directed Share Platform**

The Directed Share Platform (DSP) is used by broker/dealers to identify, track, and allocate shares associated with employees, friends and family before an issuer makes its initial public offering (IPO).

The Directed Share Platform is a derivative of NetChemistry's Offering Platform the industry's leading offering management platform, a flexible rapid-deployment solution designed for broker/dealers, banks, investment banks and insurance companies to buy and distribute equity. The Offering Platform also allows investors to quickly and efficiently see a list of upcoming offerings, pass a suitability questionnaire, apply for an account, read and download information, ask questions and submit conditional offers.

## About U.S. Bancorp

U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray, a subsidiary of Minneapolis-based U.S. Bancorp (NYSE: USB - news), provides a full range of investment products and services to businesses, institutions and individuals. The company's investment banking business has grown exponentially in the last several years by focusing on the needs of growth companies in the health care, technology, financial institutions, consumer and industrial growth sectors. U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray has a national reputation for its expertise in fundamental research and equity and debt financing. U.S. Bancorp offers a comprehensive range of financial solutions through U.S. Bank, U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray Asset Management, U.S. Bancorp Investments and its Libra Division and U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray. Securities products and services offered through U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray, Inc., member SIPC and NYSE, Inc., a subsidiary of U.S. Bancorp.

NetChemistry is an Internet solution and software provider for the Financial and Health Services industry whose systems have handled billions of dollars in transactions. Combining vertical expertise with their Core Product Suite, NetChemistry specializes in Web-based information enrollment, distribution and tracking systems comprised of secure, scalable software modules that can be rapidly customized to fit the different parameters of each clients offering. The modules are designed to improve customer relationships resulting in efficiency, convenience and reduced liability.

In addition to software development, NetChemistry has a comprehensive understanding of design architecture, systems integration and provides a complete hosting solution at the tier one SBC facility in Southern California. For more information on NetChemistry or its services, contact NetChemistry at 4600 Campus Drive, Suite 201A, Newport Beach, Calif., 92660; phone: (949) 399-5380; or visit www.netchemistry.com.

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