



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Ford and Columbine Merge to Provide a Complete Global Equity Research Solution**

**July 22, 2013, San Diego, CA** – Ford Equity Research announced today that it has signed an exclusive licensing agreement to acquire Columbine Capital Services, Inc.'s quantitative research business. Under the agreement, Ford Equity Research will assume all production, distribution and marketing of Columbine's research products. Columbine founders John S. Brush and David S. Ament will serve in a consulting role with a particular focus on research and model development.

The combination of Ford's data collection and research delivery with Columbine's broad research model offering is an excellent strategic fit which will allow both firms to better serve the needs of a wide range of professional investors.

"We have known and worked with Jack and Dave for many years and have a tremendous amount of respect for their research", said Tim Alward, President and CEO of Ford Equity Research. "The addition of the Columbine Models to the Ford Equity Research product line provides us new opportunities to address a wider market. In addition, Columbine's cross border and country specific models will provide a particularly interesting enhancement to our current international product offering."

John Brush, President of Columbine Capital remarked, "More than thirty years ago Dave Morse, founder of Ford Investor Services, did a kindness to our fledgling research firm by giving us historical fundamental data to test with our complex price momentum measure, starting us down the road to multifactor models. Over the years Columbine Capital and Ford have been friends, competitors, and have shared research. We see this combination as singularly well prepared to exploit the power of quantitative modeling globally and look forward to a long collaboration."

The combined firm will continue to test new quantitative methodologies including combinations that reflect the best and most persistent results from each firm. The expectation is these new "Best of the Best" models will form the basis of several new product offerings.

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#### **About Columbine Capital Services, Inc.**

Columbine Capital Services, Inc. is an independent research provider based in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Founded in 1976, Columbine has been serving the needs of institutional investors since the earliest days of quantitative investing. Their clients include some of the world's most successful money managers, investment companies, banks and hedge funds in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

#### **About Ford Equity Research**

Ford Equity Research is a leading independent equity research firm based in San Diego, California. For more than 40 years Ford has been dedicated to helping its clients improve their

investment results by delivering equity investing solutions that empower them to generate and execute on their best ideas. Ford is owned by Mergent, Inc. a leading provider of business and financial information with offices in New York, Charlotte, San Diego, Tokyo, Kuching and Melbourne.

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