

For immediate release



HLM VENTURE PARTNERS

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HLM VENTURE PARTNERS, L.P. HAS FIRST CLOSE

BOSTON, Massachusetts, October 2, 2001 - HLM Management Company announced today the \$75 million initial closing of HLM Venture Partners, L.P. This closing brings the total committed venture capital assets managed by HLM to over \$275 million, dedicated principally to investing in expansion-stage private companies. The firm's investment strategy is focused in all segments of health care, as well as technology and business services.

"Recent dislocations in the venture capital and IPO markets have led to an unprecedented number of extremely attractive opportunities," said Ed Cahill, the leader of HLM's venture capital group. "Having fresh capital to put to work in new companies at the stage and sectors in which we have always focused is a tremendous advantage in today's unsettled environment. Even well-capitalized venture funds need a credible new investor to price down rounds."

The firm's prior investments include such companies as: Healthon/WebMD, Praecis Pharmaceuticals, Aspect Medical, Cobalt Networks, Inktomi, The TriZetto Group, and Exact Sciences.

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Investors in the first close were primarily limited partners of previous HLM funds, and include UnitedHealth Group, The Chubb Corporation, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. The firm plans a final close for the fund in the first quarter of 2002.

About HLM Venture Partners

HLM Venture Partners, with \$360 million under management, provides venture capital to emerging health care, business services and technology companies. HLM supports entrepreneurs as they turn innovative ideas into market-leading businesses, offering guidance on financial structuring, resource allocation and deployment, strategic planning, strategic introductions, and recruitment.

Over the past 10 years, HLM's General Partners have helped more than 30 portfolio companies through initial public offerings, mergers or acquisitions. This investment record includes such leading companies as Healtheon Corporation, The TriZetto Group, Spinal Concepts, Scientific Learning, Exact Laboratories, Aspect Medical Systems, Praecis Pharmaceuticals, Centene Corporation, and Automated Healthcare.

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