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## **Comprehensive Software Systems Acquired by Stephens Investments Holdings, LLC**

*Description: Ownership Change Enables CSS to Switch from Product Only to Comprehensive Product and Services.*

Golden, CO, February 1, 2008 – Comprehensive Software Systems (CSS) was established in 1993 for the purpose of developing brokerage clearance and settlement software that leverages advancements in hardware platforms and operating software. During this time, the financial services industry experienced its strongest growth, along with ever-increasing regulatory demands. Due to this growth, CSS increased the breadth of its product to include portfolio management functionality, order management, workflow, document production, support for packaged products as well as the clearance/settlement and accounting aspects required for a broker-dealer to stay within industry compliance guidelines.

Recently, Stephens Investments Holdings, LLC, an entity owned by Warren A. Stephens, acquired CSS with an ownership change that positions CSS to transition from a product-development company to both a services and product-development organization. CSS now offers solutions to a larger audience of broker-dealers with functionality currently unavailable from traditional service brands. CSS will continue to develop comprehensive product and services wanted and needed by the entire industry.

The transition to a services-based company offers the CSS product on a service bureau/ASP model, allowing firms to leverage the product without running it in house, although the in-house application remains available. The CSS product is a valuable option for growing businesses that want to firmly control their IT infrastructure.

CSS integrates large categories into a cohesive solution, reducing the number of moving parts between systems, and minimizing redundant data. CSS uses a powerful data structure that allows its product to adapt to ongoing technology, industry, and regulatory changes. Our major project initiative provides a new user-experience for sales reps, additional portfolio functionality, and increased clearance/settlement and accounting features.

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