



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAJAFI COMPANIES REPOSITIONS FOR GROWTH

Launches as an Independent Firm

Phoenix, Arizona (April 4, 2006) – Najafi Companies, formerly Pivotal Private Equity and a part of the Pivotal Group, announced today its launch as an independent company. Founded in 2002 as a division of Pivotal Group, Najafi Companies will now operate as a separate entity from Pivotal Group.

“This move will better position us to pursue exciting growth opportunities, and attract and retain the most talented investment professionals,” said Jahm Najafi, CEO of Najafi Companies. “We will continue to take a long term approach in nurturing and growing our investments.”

Najafi Companies’ investment team includes: Peter Woog, the former CEO of Cable Systems Holdings, a division of AT&T that was acquired by CitiCorp Venture Capital; and Jerry Pence who joined the company from the Boston Consulting Group. Patrick Smith, the CFO of Najafi Companies previously served as the Director of Finance and Treasurer for AAA of Arizona.

Najafi Companies is a private investment firm based in Phoenix, Arizona. The firm makes highly-selective investments up to \$2 billion in size in companies with strong management teams across a variety of industries, and often in industries out of popular favor. The firm takes a long-term view on its investments and focuses its efforts to create value through growth and superior performance. Najafi Companies funds investments with its principals’ capital, not through a fund. Free from the restrictions of a fund, the firm is able to move quickly and decisively when investing, and with no requirements to return capital to outside partners, Najafi Companies is able to make investments that create maximum value for the long term. For more information about Najafi Companies, visit www.najafi.com.

#

**Media
Contact:**

Anne Robertson
The Lavidge Company
480.998.2600 ext. 537
arobertson@lavidge.com

Alicia Wadas
The Lavidge Company
480.998.2600 ext. 533
awadas@lavidge.com

