



For Immediate Release

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NAJAFI COMPANIES ADDS DANIEL T. SHUM AS PARTNER

Seasoned executive brings international finance and investment experience

PHOENIX, Ariz. (Dec. 8, 2009) – Najafi Companies, a Phoenix-based international private investment firm, has named Daniel T. Shum a Partner, further enhancing the executive investment expertise of its senior management team.

Prior to his Phoenix relocation to focus on his personal investments, Shum spent 10 years as a managing director of Lehman Brothers Inc., where he served in various capacities including Head of Wealth and Asset Management for Europe and Asia and Chief Administrative Officer for the Global Private Client business.

Shum was also the founding Chairman of the Lehman Brothers Asian Network. Prior to Lehman Brothers, Shum spent 17 years at the investment banking firms of Salomon Brothers and Merrill Lynch, where he held a number of key positions including President of Salomon Brothers Asset Management in Asia and Head of Private Clients in Asia.

Shum also served as the Chairman of the advisory council and was a member of the Board for Merrill Lynch Canada. During his 27-year tenure with the investment banks, Shum worked and lived in New York, Toronto, Beverly Hills, Hong Kong, Singapore and London.

"Najafi had been successful with its investment strategies in the U.S. and the addition of Daniel will allow us to diversify and expand our investments internationally," said Jahm Najafi, CEO of Najafi Companies. "This is an important and strategic move for us."

As a Partner with Najafi Companies, Shum will seek and evaluate acquisition and co-investment opportunities, both in the U.S. and globally. From due diligence through negotiation to eventual partnering with management of the acquired company, Shum will contribute significant value with his extensive international knowledge and cultural fluency.

Shum earned both Bachelor's (honors) and Master's degrees from the University of Western Ontario in Canada. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Valley Youth Theatre and resides in Scottsdale.



About Najafi Companies

Najafi Companies is an international private investment firm based in Phoenix, Arizona. The firm makes highly-selective investments up to \$1 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 internally generated 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.