

AVONDALE PARTNERS' BOB MCADOO NAMED TOP AIRLINE ANALYST IN FT | STARMINE ANALYST AWARDS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (May 17, 2010) – Avondale Partners Director and Senior Research Analyst Bob McAdoo was named this week as the No. 1 Stock Picker in the Airlines Industry according to the 2010 Financial Times (FT) | StarMine Analyst Awards, an annual ranking of Wall Street's best brokerage analysts.

McAdoo, who has been with Avondale Partners since 2007, was recognized for his 2009 research performance. This is the third time that he has been recognized by the StarMine Analyst Awards as the top airline picker, and he was the second ranked picker among all industry analysts in the 2005 rankings. FT, in partnership with StarMine, the leading provider of objective ratings of securities analysts, measures analysts' performance based on the return of their stock recommendations and the accuracy of their earnings estimates. The study is conducted by Thomson Reuters Company.

"We consistently strive to produce outstanding fundamental research. Bob has long been a respected analyst in the airline sector, and this award is a tribute to his thinking, insights and experience with this industry," said Sarah Sherck, managing director of equity research at Avondale Partners. "Everyone at Avondale congratulates Bob for his continued excellent work and this deserved honor."

McAdoo has more than 20 years of airline industry experience as an analyst and senior level executive. Prior to joining Avondale, he served as senior airline analyst at Prudential Equity Group in Kansas City. He also served as senior airline analyst with Prudential Securities from 1991 to 1994 and with Oppenheimer & Co. from 1986 to 1991.

McAdoo was instrumental in the founding of two publicly traded low-cost airlines. He served as CEO of Vanguard Airlines and CFO of People Express. McAdoo also served as vice president responsible for I.T. at TWA and worked with Mesa Airlines, a regional airline based in Phoenix.

McAdoo is a five-time Institutional Investor All Star and a four-time *Wall Street Journal* "Best of the Street" stock picker. He has degrees in mathematics and business from the University of Kansas and is a CPA.

Avondale Partners, LLC is a leading, full-service institutional investment bank headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., with offices in Baltimore, Boston, San Diego, San Francisco and St. Louis. The firm focuses on providing high-quality equity research, sales and trading and investment banking services to institutional clients throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe. Since its inception in the summer of 2001, Avondale Partners has executed approximately 70 investment banking transactions and assignments for its clients, exceeding a total value of \$13 billion, including public debt and equity offerings, private placements and merger and acquisition transactions. More information on Avondale can be found at www.avondalepartnersllc.com.