

Press Release

June 12, 2008

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Altura Capital launches the first Global Information, Research, Data and Networking Platform - Tool tracks data and research of Emerging and Diverse managers for mid and large, private and public, institutional investors.

Platform resolves serious needs for data, research, knowledge and collaborative tools in the developing managers space.

New York, NY – Altura Capital Group, a New York-based firm specialized in providing Institutional research and product solutions in the emerging manager category, has teamed up with a group of large institutional investors to develop a robust and comprehensive information, research and data platform with a networking component, that will bridge existing access to information and research gaps in the emerging and diverse asset manager space. Founding subscribers include the Comptroller of the City of New York, the California State Teachers' Retirement System CalSTRS, the California Public Employees' Retirement System CalPERS and the Illinois State Board of Investments ISBI. The subscription-based platform will be available to institutional investors around the globe by August of 2008. The nationwide and global network will provide institutional investors and small and emerging financial services firms the ability to collaborate and access research and information in an unprecedented manner. Market intelligence, best practices, programs and information sharing will be centralized in one comprehensive Platform.

In 2006, CalSTRS and CalPERS commissioned Altura to build a first-of-its kind database of emerging managers and other financial service providers. The purpose of the database was to satisfy a need to help identify and trace new and emerging investment talent, promote transparency and access to capital, and to form a better understanding of emerging investment firms. A comprehensive directory was published in January of 2007 and a new one will be released in August of 2008. The 2007 report is available at CalSTRS, CalPERS and Altura's websites. The report includes a wide variety of asset classes.

According to Ms. Anne Stausboll, CalPERS Interim CIO: "The Altura Emerging Manager Platform is an effective and user friendly tool that allows Institutional Investors to have at their finger tips the emerging manager world. We are proud to be one of the Founding Subscribers of this platform. Our history with emerging managers is long and full of success stories of long-term value creation. We congratulate Altura on the launching of this product and are proud to be one of the early Founding Subscribers of the Platform".

Mr. Chris Ailman, CIO at CalSTRS commented: "Since 2005 when we teamed up with CalPERS to give Altura the mandate to develop a database of emerging managers, we wanted to develop a tool that would be utilized by the institutional market to gain understanding and broad visibility to the emerging manager category. Emerging managers hold the promise of the future, and the potential alpha of undiscovered talent. The results of CalSTRS



We help institutional investors to harness the power of
diversity in the management of investments

Emerging Manager Program demonstrate the innovation and initiative that's housed in small nimble money managers. Altura itself is an emerging player in the space, bringing to the market innovative tools to better understand and evaluate emerging managers. We are excited to be an EC II Founding Subscriber".

New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr., custodian and investment advisor to the five New York City Pension Funds, noted: "I am proud to become a founding subscriber of the Altura EC II Platform. With a comprehensive research platform and a state of the art database of emerging minority and women managers, our systems will be even better poised to invest in this asset class and further promote the success of women and minority managers".

Mr. Bill Atwood, Executive Director at Illinois State Board of Investments, ISBI, added: "At ISBI we are very committed to expanding our utilization of emerging managers, so that we can tap into new, small and promising investment firms. That is why we are utilizing Altura's EC II Emerging Manager Platform"

Ms. Monika Mantilla, President and CEO of Altura Capital commented: "At Altura we are thrilled to launch this Emerging Manager Information Platform and to put it in the hands of every Institutional Investor in the globe who is seeking to enhance their alpha generation opportunities by tapping into a vibrant and strong source of investment talent: the talent that exists in small, entrepreneurial firms. Our tools will also allow many Institutional Investors to seek for diverse managers, including women and minority owned firms. We invite every emerging firm in the world that is proud of their ability to perform and add value to register on our database by visiting us at www.alturacap.com."