



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FundQuest Enhances Unified Managed Account Platform

A Sophisticated Yet Simple Solution to Tap into the Affluent Marketplace

Boston, Mass. October 18, 2005. FundQuest Inc. is pleased to announce the availability of its enhanced Unified Managed Account (UMA) platform, which leverages the best of what the firm has to offer financial institutions including expertise in investment management, technology, and distribution.

The FundQuest UMA allows financial institutions to provide their advisors and their investors access to a one core account featuring multiple investment products including separate accounts, mutual funds, and exchange-traded funds, diversified portfolios across multiple styles and well-known investment managers, and in-house overlay portfolio management. With low minimums and simplified operational processes, the FundQuest UMA offers institutions and their financial advisors an additional means to expand their reach into the affluent and emerging affluent markets.

"FundQuest's top priority has always been to help financial institutions and their advisors build their businesses. The FundQuest UMA platform helps firms do this in several ways. First, it provides a simplified way for institutions to offer investors portfolio customization options and tax management opportunities in one core account, with one set of paperwork and with one comprehensive performance number," said Bob Del Col, President of FundQuest. "Furthermore, institutions can offer their advisors simplified account administration. This allows advisors to increase their own profitability, using the time saved to enhance current client relationships and build new ones."

FundQuest's position as an industry leader in wealth management solutions makes it uniquely qualified to perform two distinct roles for the UMA platform: "Manager-of-Managers" and Overlay Portfolio Manager. As "Manager-of-Managers", FundQuest relies on its expertise in asset allocation and investment management. Driven by a disciplined investment selection and review process, FundQuest aims to consistently provide clients with access to well-known investment managers across investment styles.

FundQuest's Overlay Portfolio Management process enables one objective team to aggregate the investment decisions of multiple managers. "Our proprietary technology and team of experts covering a broad range of functions including investment analysis, product management, technology, trading, and operations makes FundQuest a natural fit as Overlay Portfolio Manager," said Tim Clift, Chief Investment Officer of FundQuest.

The enhanced FundQuest UMA is available now as an extension of their existing wealth management solutions for financial institutions.

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FundQuest (www.fundquest.com) is one of the industry's leading providers of managed account solutions. With more than USD \$11 billion in management and administration, FundQuest is an established and objective firm serving many of the world's most prominent financial institutions. Its open architecture and objective investment management services enable FundQuest to deliver a robust and flexible menu of wealth management solutions including: mutual fund advisory accounts, separately managed accounts, fee-based brokerage, unified managed accounts, retirement income, trust integration, variable annuity, exchange-traded funds, hedge funds, and other alternative investments. Its other core capabilities include delivering sales and marketing resources that make it easier for its clients to promote, sell, and support their wealth management services. FundQuest is a wholly owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas Asset Management.

BNP Paribas (www.bnpparibas.com) is a European leader in banking and financial services, with a significant and growing presence in the United States and leading positions in Asia. The most profitable bank in the Euro zone, it has a presence in 85 countries with close to 100,000 employees. The group enjoys key positions in Corporate and Investment Banking, Private Banking & Asset Management, Insurance, Securities Services and Retail Banking.

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