



***SILVERWOOD PARTNERS ADDS FINANCIAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY
EXPERT TO EXECUTIVE TEAM***

SHERBORN, MA – November 15, 2004 – Silverwood Partners today announced that David Francione has joined its executive team. Mr. Francione is a Vice President with Silverwood Partners focusing on the financial services technology industry and consumer and industrial products companies.

“David Francione is a seasoned finance professional with experience working in the corporate sector, and at regional and boutique investment banks. David’s experience in financial services technology (“FST”) will be an important contribution to Silverwood’s initiatives in that industry segment. We have seen a significant increase in FST deal activity that is being driven by increased spending to meet regulatory mandates, an increased acceptance of standards-based technologies in previously proprietary environments and consolidation driven by customers demanding tighter integration of systems and technologies” said Jonathan Hodson-Walker, Managing Partner of Silverwood Partners.

Mr. Francione has over 8 years of experience in investment banking, corporate development and management consulting. He has experience working with public and privately-held companies executing mergers and acquisitions, valuations, fairness opinions, IPOs and private placement transactions. Prior positions include Director of Corporate Development for Elcom International, Inc., a \$500 million technology services company, and Consultant for REL Consultancy group, where he was involved in working capital improvement projects for the Fortune 500. Prior to REL, Mr. Francione was an Associate in the Investment Banking department at Advest, Inc., where he focused on executing corporate finance transactions.

Mr. Francione holds an MBA from the University of Connecticut and a BS in Finance from Central Connecticut State University. Mr. Francione is a member of the Institute of Management Accountants and is the current president of the University of Connecticut Alumni Association Boston Chapter.

About Silverwood Partners

Silverwood Partners is a sector focused investment bank that provides M&A and private capital raising advisory services to information, communications, financial services, and digital imaging technology companies, and healthcare, industrial and consumer companies. Silverwood delivers acquisition, divestiture or corporate sale advisory, strategic-financial advisory and institutional financing services to companies in its targeted business sectors. For additional information, visit Silverwood’s Website at www.silverwoodpartners.com.

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