



GILFORD SECURITIES

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Analyst's Biographies

Casey Alexander

Senior Vice President – Research, Director

Casey Alexander joined Gilford Securities Inc. in February of 1996 and is a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Alexander has created and distributes a highly successful proprietary research product called Gilford Securities Rule 144 Research. Mr. Alexander also has a specialty covering the Golf Industry. Prior to joining Gilford Securities Inc. Mr. Alexander spent eight years with PaineWebber Inc. During his tenure at PaineWebber, Mr. Alexander filled multiple roles including Head of Over-the-Counter Marketing, Divisional Sales Manager and Branch Manager. Mr. Alexander successfully completed the PaineWebber Equity Institute portfolio management program. Mr. Alexander has also been employed by Prudential Securities and E.F. Hutton during his 25 year career in the securities business. Mr. Alexander is a tournament golfer and has been ranked as one of the top amateur tournament golfers in the New York metropolitan region.

Paul C. Christopherson

Senior Vice President – Research.

Paul C. Christopherson was most recently chairman of New Vernon Associates, Inc., since founding it in 1992. New Vernon Associates was a multi-million dollar institutional equity research firm in Parsippany, NJ, specializing in chemicals and pharmaceuticals. It was cited by *Institutional Investor* magazine in its "Best of the Boutiques" starting when that poll was begun in 1994.

Previously a 17-year veteran of Wall Street, Paul was the senior chemical analyst at Bear Stearns & Co. (associate director, 1983-91), and Kidder, Peabody & Co. (vice president, 1974-82), where he was recognized by *Institutional Investor's* "All-America Research Team" poll, and was published in *Financial Analysts Journal*. A native of Minneapolis, Paul graduated from Williams College in 1968, and received an M. Div from Episcopal Divinity School in 1971, and an MBA from Columbia in 1974.

Bernard Sosnick – Retailing

Senior Vice President – Research

With more than 30 years experience as a retail industry analyst, Bernard Sosnick has garnered numerous awards and accolades for his company and sector analysis.

Bernie was cited by TheStreet.com as the "Unsung Hero of Wall Street" in 1999 and came in first for retail/broadlines in the 2001 survey of top stock pickers by *StarMine*. He was recognized as a "Home Run Hitter" by *Institutional Investor* for 2001 while also making the *Wall Street Journal's* "Best on the Street" survey in the retail broad line category three years in a row (2000, 2001 and 2002). Most recently, Bernie was cited by Forbes.com/StarMine as the #2 ranked analyst for earnings estimate accuracy in 2007.

Robert D. Straus

Specialty Consumer and Retail Analyst

Robert Straus joined Gilford Securities from Merriman Curhan Ford Group, where he was Managing Director for the consumer and retail sectors. He covered the business and consumer services sector at ING Barings LLC (formerly Furman Selz LLC). Mr. Straus also covered specialty retail, leisure, global wireless telecommunications and equipment sectors at Furman Selz. Mr Straus has been quoted in Barron's, Business Week, Investors Business Daily, the New York Times, and the Wall Street Journal. Mr. Straus received an MBA from Bentley University in Waltham, MA.

Nimal Vallipuram

Alternative Energy/Cleantech Analyst.

Nimal Vallipuram covers the Renewable Energy/Cleantech industries and associated companies. Prior to joining Gilford, he worked for Hapoalim Securities, The Benchmark Co., Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein, Everen Securities and Bear Stearns and Co. Mr. Vallipuram spent 15 years as a technology equity research analyst focusing mainly on Semiconductor and Technology related stocks. His area of coverage has included U.S., European, Asian and Israeli companies. He has been quoted regularly in top finance and industry publications, and has made regular appearances on financial TV news channels. Mr. Vallipuram holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical/Electronic engineering from IIT, Delhi, India and an MBA from Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA.