

Attention Business Editors:

CDS welcomes Canadian Western Trust Company as an ATON participant

TORONTO, Oct. 23 /CNW/ - The Canadian Depository for Securities Ltd. (CDS) today announced the addition of Canadian Western Trust Company (CWT) to its Account Transfer Online Notification (ATON) service.

ATON provides electronic reporting and confirmation of client account transfer information sent between securities dealers and is a highly efficient way to meet turnaround requirements for the Investment Dealers Association of Canada's (IDA) Regulation 2300 - Account Transfers. The ATON system reduces the need for manual intervention and the efficiency of client account transfers will continue to be enhanced as participation in the system expands.

"CDS expanded its ATON membership in the summer of 2006 to include users that do not have full CDS participant status, thus enabling more securities dealers to electronically transfer account information. CDS is pleased to welcome Canadian Western Trust Company as an ATON participant," said Mark Weseluck, executive director, Customer Service and Product Development, CDS.

"We are delighted to be the newest ATON participant," said Cathy Phillips, managing director, Operations, CWT. "Feedback from our clients is very positive, as transfers can now be completed in a matter of days. The ATON system will facilitate CWT's significant growth and further improve the high level of customer service that our clients have come to enjoy," added Phillips.

About CDS

Founded in 1970, The Canadian Depository for Securities Ltd. (CDS) is Canada's national securities depository, clearing and settlement hub, providing valued, secure and reliable securities market services that continuously improve efficiency, effectiveness and global competitiveness. CDS Ltd. supports Canada's equity, fixed income and money markets, holding over to \$2.7 trillion on deposit and handling over 77 million securities trades annually.

About CWT

Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canadian Western Trust Company (CWT) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian Western Bank. CWT offers self-directed registered accounts and investment account services geared towards independent financial advisors and mortgage brokers. CWT also provides corporate and group services to corporations who offer employee retirement and pension plans. As at July 31, 2006, CWT had over \$3.2 billion of assets under administration.

For further information:

Janet Comeau, Manager, Corporate
Communications, CDS at (416) 365-8427 or jcomeau@cds.ca;

Cathy Phillips,
Managing Director, Operations, CWT at (604) 699-4802 or cathy.phillips@cwt.ca

