



C. K. COOPER & COMPANY

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Alexander G. Montano is the Managing Director of the Corporate Finance Group for C. K. Cooper & Company, a full-service investment bank focused on providing superior and insightful research coverage to its clients; innovative investment banking solutions supported by sales and trading services; and portfolio advisory and management services for private clients.

In this role, Mr. Montano has been responsible for the development of the firm's investment banking practice, including cultivating client relationships, strategic planning and transaction management and execution. Under his guidance, the Corporate Finance Group at C. K. Cooper & Company has closed on \$725 million worth of transactions in the past 3 years and \$990 million in the past 5 years. Notable transactions include a \$64 million equity commitment to Panther Bayou Exploration (Private Equity) the recent merger of PYR Energy to Samson Investments and several private/public offerings in the \$20 - \$100 million transaction range.

Prior to this role, Mr. Montano had been an equity analyst since 1991, and has focused on smaller exploration and production companies since 1995. His comments and analysis have been quoted in such publications as Hart's Oil & Gas Investor, CNNfn, Forbes Magazine, Buyside Magazine, Standard & Poor's Platz Oil Gram and various regional newspapers, including the Cleveland Plain Dealer and the Houston Chronicle. In addition, Mr. Montano was rated a 5 Star, All – Star Analyst by Zacks Investment Research in the 1st quarter of 2002 and top Oil Analyst by the Wall Street Journal in May of 2003.

Mr. Montano attended the University of Southern California and Chapman University. He has traveled extensively around the world and has spoken on energy related topics in such venues as Germany and Nigeria. In addition, Mr. Montano is also a member of the Independent Producers Association of America and has been a regular speaker for the California Independent Producers Association on energy related topics.