



C. K. COOPER & COMPANY INITIATES COVERAGE OF ATWOOD OCEANICS, INC.

Irvine, Calif. – Dec. 2, 2009 – C. K. Cooper & Company, an independent, full-service investment bank, headquartered in Irvine, Calif. announced today that it has initiated coverage of Atwood Oceanics, Inc. (NYSE: ATW).

"We believe Atwood Oceanics is an excellent choice for energy investors due to their commitment to fiscal discipline, safety, and efficient operations," said Lewis Kreps, Senior Research Analyst with C. K. Cooper & Company. "As one of the smallest offshore drillers with only nine rigs, the company is a niche player in the deepwater market with two semisubmersible rigs under construction for an expected delivery in 2011 and 2012. These new rigs should only add to the continued record earnings the company has posted for the last three years."

C. K. Cooper & Company

C. K. Cooper & Company is a full-service investment bank headquartered in Irvine, California. The Company is 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. Though C. K. Cooper & Company has been noted for a variety of measures of accomplishment, we chart our success by only one metric: The growth of our clients. For more about C. K. Cooper & Company, visit www.ckcooper.com.

For more information, please contact:

C. K. Cooper & Company
18300 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 700
Irvine, California 92612

Telephone: (949) 477-9300
Facsimile: (949) 477-9211
E-Mail: administration@ckcooper.com

C. K. Cooper & Co. Media Contact: Renae Placinski
North Shore Public Relations, Inc.
www.northshorepr.com

Telephone: (847) 945-4505
Facsimile: (847) 945-3755
E-Mail: renae@northshorepr.com

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