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California Boutique To Add Research

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California-based **C.K. Cooper & Company**, a full service investment bank, is planning to launch coverage on healthcare, retail and aerospace & defense. The firm expects to hire three analysts by the end of the year to support the new sectors as a supplement to its existing energy sector coverage. "We have a solid sales and trading platform and we want to do that with research. We want to build up the equity side," said **Alexander Montano**, ceo. The firm has already hired **Jeffrey Cohen** to cover healthcare with a focus on medical devices, capital equipment, technology and diagnostics. He will launch in a few weeks with a universe of 15-20 stocks.

C.K. will also expand its current energy offering, which provides coverage of oil and coal companies as well as the exploration and production sector. Montano said coverage of clean tech and alternative energy will be launched over the next few months. Sales and trading staff will also be supplemented to support the equities buildout.

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