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FIRST NATIONAL INVESTMENT BANKING ACQUIRES CYBUS CAPITAL MARKETS, LLC

**Combined resources and experience to build “the premier food,
agribusiness and renewable energy investment bank in the nation”**

Expansion in Des Moines, Kansas City and Sacramento markets

Omaha, Neb. (June 3, 2007) – First National Investment Banking (FNIB), a full-service investment bank and wholly-owned subsidiary of First National of Nebraska, Inc. (FNNI), announced that it has acquired the investment banking firm of Cybus Capital Markets, LLC (Cybus) of Des Moines. Cybus will retain its name and all current employees, but will be operated as a division of FNIB, according to Clark D. Lauritzen, the firm’s senior vice president and general manager.

“Cybus and First National Investment Banking have combined their considerable resources and experience to build the premier food, agribusiness and renewable energy investment banking practice in North America,” Lauritzen said.

With more than 200 clients, and over \$3 billion in closed transactions, Cybus is a leading private investment banking firm specializing in providing financial advisory services to middle-

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market businesses, according to James Eiler, Cybus' managing partner who will continue in his current role at FNIB.

“With our offices in Des Moines and Sacramento, Calif., and an affiliate in St. Augustine, Fla., Cybus adds a national reach to First National Investment Banking's offerings,” Eiler said. “Cybus also brings not only decades of capital raising and M&A experience to augment FNIB's menu of services, but an immediate extension into the traditional agribusiness and food chain, corporate client marketplace with specific entrée into the growing areas such as the organic, natural, health and wellness, and nutraceutical segments where Cybus has a very robust practice. Truly a gate to plate investment banking organization,” Eiler said.

“First National Investment Banking offers Cybus' clients the resources of one of the largest and fastest growing full-service investment banks in the region,” Lauritzen said, “plus the clout of First National of Nebraska, Inc., the fourth largest U.S. agricultural lender, with more than \$18 billion in assets and over 7,500 employees located across the nation.”

“We have tremendous respect for the professionals at Cybus,” Lauritzen said, “They have earned an outstanding reputation in the investment banking industry for over 25 years. Our business philosophies, which combine Wall Street expertise with Midwestern values, mesh very well,” Lauritzen said.

In addition to sharing a common business philosophy, Lauritzen said that FNIB and Cybus share considerable expertise in several industries including agriculture and biofuels. “The value of FNIB's and Cybus' combined experience and industry standing, especially in the agribusiness and renewable energy markets, far exceeds the sum of our parts,” Lauritzen said. FNIB is one of the nation's largest renewable energy lenders with a recognized industry leadership role in ethanol and biodiesel.

“This is great news for our employees and clients,” said Eiler. “Cybus will continue to provide the investment banking counsel that has helped us earn the trusted relationships we've

established over the past 25 years, and we will now be able to offer our clients an even greater range of capital market resources and M&A services.”

FNIB offers a comprehensive menu of investment and financial services, specifically designed for corporations, institutions and high-net-worth individuals, Lauritzen said, “In the past, this caliber of investment banking services was only available from large Wall Street firms.”

First National Investment Bank is comprised of three interrelated operating groups including First National Capital Markets, First National Mergers & Acquisitions and First Capital Partners LLC, an investor in mezzanine capital and private equity.

First National Capital Markets (FNCM), an NASD and SIPC member firm, provides a wide range of innovative investment solutions for corporations, institutions and qualified individual investors who seek a highly personalized, multidisciplinary approach. FNCM offerings include fixed income and money market sales and trading, derivatives, alternative investments, loan trading, a proprietary Sanitary and Improvement District (SID) investment program and a financial strategies group that offers bond accounting, asset and liability management and budgeting services.

First National Mergers & Acquisitions (FNM&A) offers business owners and their advisors complete M&A guidance regarding strategic alternatives, financial restructurings and ownership transitions. Services include strategic advice, sell-side and buy-side advisory, divestitures, recapitalizations, management and leveraged buyouts, and capital raising. FNM&A professionals can help clients evaluate, arrange and secure an optimal capital structure using senior debt, subordinated debt and equity financing.

First Capital Partners, LLC is a direct investor of private equity and mezzanine capital (also known as subordinated debt) for profitable middle-market businesses.

Private equity and mezzanine capital, which together are called junior capital, enable a

business owner to close the gap between where senior bank debt ends and growth opportunities begin.

ABOUT FIRST NATIONAL INVESTMENT BANKING

First National Investment Banking is one of the fastest growing investment banking firms in the Midwest. FNIB serves corporations, institutions and high-net-worth individuals by providing a comprehensive array of sophisticated financial resources and staff that can provide leadership in a complex investment environment. FNIB is headquartered in Omaha, Neb. and has regional offices in Kansas City, Mo., Des Moines, Iowa and Sacramento, Calif.

For more information, visit www.fnib.com.

ABOUT CYBUS CAPITAL MARKETS, LLC

Cybus Capital Markets, LLC is a private investment banking firm specializing in the food, agribusiness and rural industries. In this focused area of expertise, Cybus applies a wide range of advisory and corporate finance capabilities to help middle-market clients with ownership, capital and growth issues. Cybus is nationally recognized for expertise in the food and agribusiness industry, with more than 25 years of successful relationships with producers, processors, distributors and retailers involved in a wide array of products and services. Cybus' non-food industry group is a leading middle-market investment banking practice, serving companies in the

Midwest and nationally in the manufacturing, distribution, logistics, renewable energy and business services sectors.

For more information, visit www.cybus.com

ABOUT FIRST NATIONAL OF NEBRASKA

First National of Nebraska has grown into the largest private banking company in the United States. First National of Nebraska and its affiliates have more than \$18 billion in managed assets and more than 7,500 employee associates located across the United States. Primary banking offices are located in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota and Texas.