# News Release Communiqué



Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13th 2006

57-59 Dundonald Street Port of Spain

## Check registration before you invest, warns the SEC.

The Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission ("the Commission") is warning investors to check the registration status of any person or firm purporting to deal in securities or offering you investment advice. The Commission is strongly advising members of the public that there are inherent risks involved in conducting business with unregistered individuals or entities.

Before you invest, follow these steps:

#### 1. Get information.

Ask for a prospectus, offering circular, financial statement, or similar documentation before you consider investing. Read the small print carefully and make sure you understand the terms thoroughly before signing any form of commitment/agreement.

### 2. Ask questions.

Thoroughly evaluate the background of any financial professional with whom you intend to do business – before you hand over your hard-earned cash.

## 3. Check if they're registered.

Check the Commission's website at <a href="www.ttsec.org.tt">www.ttsec.org.tt</a> or contact us by phone at 627-4861 or at our offices at 57-59 Dundonald Street Port of Spain in order to make sure that the company or individual you are dealing with is registered with

the Commission and find out if there are any current or prior enforcement proceedings against the company.

## 4. Check the registration category.

Firms and individuals are registered by category – each registration category has different education and experience requirements, and permits different activities. For example, a mutual fund dealer can sell and provide product advice on mutual funds, but they are not qualified to sell or provide advice on equities unless they hold further registrations. If they offer advice or a product that they're not registered for, don't invest money with them.

## 5. Verify the investment information with a reliable source.

Get an outside opinion on the information in the prospectus from a professional such as your attorney, registered stockbroker, accountant, or other reliable consultant, before making a commitment. N.B. Only registered investment advisors are authorized to give investment advice.

**END OF RELEASE** 

Contact Arlene Stephen Manager, Communications Securities and Exchange Commission FOR FURTHER INFORMATION @ 627-4861(Phone) 624-2995 (Fax)