



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FIDELITY INTRODUCES SERVICE TECHNOLOGY  
CAPABILITIES FOR INDEPENDENT ADVISORS**

**New Services Are Designed to Simplify Client Servicing  
By Giving Advisors More Control**

SCOTTSDALE, AZ, April 25, 2006 – In a move to redefine service excellence in the Registered Investment Advisor (RIA) market, Fidelity Investments, a leading provider of wealth management, custody and brokerage services to RIAs, today announced it has enhanced its technology platform, Fidelity Advisor CHANNEL, to include cashiering, customer service request capabilities, forms management and upgraded alerts. These enhancements are part of Fidelity's continued effort to offer advisors a fully integrated technology platform that can help them more efficiently manage their practices.

Fidelity also reported continued growth in its RIA business for the 12-months ended March 31, 2006. RIA assets were \$195.3 billion, up 48 percent over the past year. Fidelity ended the period with 3,134 clients, an increase of 18 percent year-over-year.

“In today's competitive environment, providing responsive, accurate and timely service can be the difference between winning and losing a client,” said William C. Carey, president, Fidelity Registered Investment Advisor Group. “However, for many advisors, finding enough time in the day to focus on client service can be a challenge, especially given the amount of time they spend on labor- and paper-intensive administrative tasks.

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“Given the critical role that service plays in the development of our RIA clients’ business, we have dedicated a significant portion of our technology investment to empower advisors to service their clients’ distinct needs at the point of contact, helping them reduce their administrative burden and free up more time to focus on their clients,” said Carey. “By tripling our technology investment in 2006, we are poised to deliver the technologies advisors need to compete more effectively and grow profitable businesses.”

### **Online Cashiering**

Fidelity’s online Cashiering feature, integrated within Fidelity Advisor CHANNEL, offers advisors the ability to move money on behalf of their clients from one financial institution to another and between Fidelity accounts. Rather than faxing requests to Fidelity, advisors can submit, track and modify checks, bank wires and electronic funds transfers (EFTs)—all online—which allows for greater transparency and direct control over their clients’ cash transactions, as well as reduced opportunities for errors. Later this year, advisors will be able to initiate requests to move money via third-party automated clearinghouse EFTs, including external accounts with unlike registrations and journals between accounts at Fidelity.

### **Online Customer Service Requests**

The online Customer Service Request feature will enable advisors to initiate service requests and routine inquiries to Fidelity—formerly done via phone, fax and email—across a wide range of brokerage services, such as cashiering, transfer of assets, and tax and cost basis transactions. It will provide real time status for each request, thereby helping to reduce the time spent calling Fidelity for status and enabling advisors to more easily set expectations with their clients. Fidelity expects this service to be available later in 2006.

### **Forms Management**

Fidelity is enhancing the Forms Library on Fidelity Advisor CHANNEL to enable advisors to pre-fill new account applications and related forms using existing customer data from Fidelity and from leading third-party contact management systems. Using the company's current Adobe-based forms interface, this feature will help advisors reduce data entry, save time and limit the opportunities for errors and inconsistency. Additionally, Fidelity Transfer Assistant is being enhanced to provide automated account setup that will include the ability to pre-fill new account opening kits and pre-generate account numbers. Fidelity expects these services to be available later this year.

### **Upgraded Alerts**

Fidelity is enhancing the Alerts feature within Advisor CHANNEL to provide additional categories of information and more account-specific details. Advisors also will gain more control over how and when they receive these alerts via a new online subscription tool. Alerts will be aggregated into a single, secure e-mail notification to individual recipients. The initial release includes all alerts currently available on Advisor CHANNEL (checks received, new accounts, corporate actions and required actions), plus delivery and receipt of transfers of assets and periodic investment plans.

“Having the flexibility to access, manage and act on information in a way that is consistent with how they do business is critical to the independent advisor,” said Carey. “These latest enhancements reflect Fidelity's ongoing commitment to offering advisors an open, scalable technology platform that helps simplify workflow, increase operational efficiencies and grow profitable practices.”

## **Fidelity Introduces Service Technologies/Page 4**

The new service technology features are the latest in a series of enhancements to Fidelity's platform for advisors. Since the beginning of the year, Fidelity has:

- Introduced Fidelity Managed Account Resources, the first open architecture unified managed account (UMA) platform delivered by an RIA-focused custodian;
- Launched the RIA Roadmap, the industry's first online resource to help new entrants build a comprehensive plan for establishing a new RIA practice;
- Enhanced its Alternative Investments platform to include an online management platform, a network of registered alternative investments from well-known third-party investment management firms and expanded reporting and custody capabilities for alternative investments; and
- Established a strategic relationship with Advent to distribute Advent Back Office Services.

### **About Fidelity Advisor CHANNEL**

Fidelity Advisor CHANNEL is an open architecture platform that seamlessly connects those technologies that are critical to an advisor's practice, including contact management, financial planning, trade order management, and portfolio management and reporting. The new platform also will integrate account servicing and practice management support. Working within Fidelity Advisor CHANNEL's integrated platform, advisors will be able to set-up, plan, manage and maintain client relationships through a single sign-on.

### **About Fidelity Registered Investment Advisor Group**

Fidelity is a leading provider of custody and brokerage services to the registered investment advisor marketplace, with more than \$195 billion in assets on behalf of more than 3,100 advisors as of March 31, 2006. Fidelity provides access to a flexible, open technology environment, extensive practice management resources, and wealth management investments and services – all backed by the long-term commitment of a private company. Dedicated relationship professionals work consultatively to help advisors choose the products and services that are in the best interests of their clients and make the most sense for their business. For more information about Fidelity's services for advisors, please visit <http://ria.fidelity.com>.

### **About Fidelity Investments**

Fidelity Investments is one of the world's largest providers of financial services, with custodied assets of more than \$2.6 trillion, including managed assets of over \$1.2 trillion as of March 31, 2006. Fidelity offers investment management, retirement planning, brokerage, and human resources and benefits outsourcing services to more than 21 million individuals and institutions as well as through 5,500 financial intermediary firms. The firm is the largest mutual fund company in the United States, the No. 1 provider of workplace retirement savings plans, one of the largest mutual fund supermarkets and a leading online brokerage firm. For more information about Fidelity Investments, visit [www.fidelity.com](http://www.fidelity.com).

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