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Ford Equity Research Announces the Release of Version 4.0 of its EPIC Research Platform

San Diego, CA – December 17, 2003 - Ford Equity Research has released its largest and most exciting new equity analysis platform, EPIC Version 4.0. EPIC 4.0 allows detailed company, portfolio, and industry analysis, as well as screening, sectoring, report writing, and links to Excel. A notable enhancement is the inclusion of detailed Annual and Quarterly Income Statement, Cash Flow, and Balance Sheet data that can be viewed, screened, and manipulated using the reported data or standardized data for company comparison. The added fundamental data complements Ford's highly regarded stock selection models and proprietary ratings and rankings. This version has many other very useful enhancements as well.

- Research can be updated daily via the internet and the program can be set to automatically update when opened.
- Ford Custom Graphs software allows custom graphing of 30 years of fundamental and proprietary data items.
- The number of research items per company has been increased to 252, including income and cash flow statement, balance sheet, and other items.
- The number of spare variables, used for creation or importing custom research, has been increased to 60.
- The software now includes drop-down menus to allow quick selection of saved portfolios, views, screens, sectors, and create variable functions.
- Portfolios can be ranked and re-ranked using any variable by right-clicking the column.
- A ticker symbol entry box has been added so that single stock displays or selected portfolios can be quickly viewed.
- Fundamental and proprietary research variables are calculated on most major indexes, including the S&P indexes, NASDAQ 100, Ford 1000, and Ford 2000 indexes.
- One stock output for viewing (and printing) includes a company description and can be changed using buttons for Ford variables only, balance sheet and income statement data only, or all data items.

Ford Equity Research is an independent investment research firm with one objective: improving investment performance for its clients. Ford has invested more than three decades in collecting, validating, and standing behind the highest quality current and historical fundamental data in the industry. This foundation allows Ford to construct and implement unique, successful stock selection processes and analytical software applications for its clients.