

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Gum Branch Capital Hires Leading Transportation Analyst, Andy Ahern of Ahern & Associates to Augment Search for Transportation Company Acquisition***

*Transportation acquisition specialist, Andy Ahern of Ahern & Associates commissioned to find viable acquisition candidates for expanding Gum Branch Capital, LLC*

Phoenix, AZ January 11, 2009—Further validating the transportation industry's economic comeback, trucking and logistics acquisition firm, [Ahern & Associates](#) has been secured by San Francisco based Gum Branch Capital to seek out and present profitable acquisition targets that meets their strategic criteria.

With an understanding that the trucking and logistics industry as a whole is a vital indicator of the country's road to economic recovery, Gum Branch Capital is well positioned to take advantage of an industry that seems to be emerging from the bottom of its economic cycle.

Looking to maximize their pool of potential targets that fit their analytic prerequisites, Charles Phillips, Managing Partner of Gum Branch Capital has hired Andy Ahern of Ahern & Associates to create a market for their potential transportation industry acquisition. "Our investors are committed to the transportation industry as a whole and Andy Ahern is one of the top analysts in the trucking and logistics field--his unique ability to create markets is critical to the success of our acquisition strategy," explains Phillips.

Ahern & Associates has a strong, industry-wide reputation for diligently seeking out acquisition targets that meet their clients' stringent criteria in any economy. "I have every confidence that our team of seasoned analysts will work tenaciously to provide Gum Branch with multiple acquisition candidates that fit their business mix," explains Andy Ahern, CEO of Ahern & Associates.

The Gum Branch Capital investment team is seeking to procure a fiscally healthy trucking or logistics firm with annual earnings between \$2MM to \$6MM EBIDTA, as well as retain current ownership on a consultative basis to assure a smooth operational transition.

**About Gum Branch Capital:** Gum Branch Capital is a private investment company focused on acquiring, managing and growing small and medium-sized companies. The company is actively searching for healthy companies with \$10 - \$100 million in revenues as a platform for growth. Gum Branch Capital differentiates itself with a strong track record of building value for shareholders, employees and customers through a relentless focus on people, quality, and customer service. For additional information please visit:

<http://www.GumBranchCapital.com> .

**About Ahern & Associates, Ltd.:** Ahern and Associates is North America's leading trucking and transportation management consulting firm. The skilled consultants at Ahern and Associates specialize in mergers and acquisitions of trucking and logistics companies as well as the restructuring and evaluation of existing carriers that seek to increase operating efficiency and improve profitability. Since 1987, Ahern and Associates has aided hundreds of buyers in the acquisition of trucking and logistics companies throughout the U.S. and Canada as well as assisting many transportation and logistics companies in reducing their overall operating costs and increasing their profitability. For more information, please call 602-242-1030 or visit <http://www.Ahern-Ltd.com>.