



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Arcapita to Form \$200 Million Venture Fund** **Arcapita Ventures to be one of the largest VC funds in the Southeast**

**ATLANTA (October 7, 2005)** – Arcapita Inc., the global private equity firm with offices in Atlanta, London, and Bahrain, announced that it is forming a \$200 million venture capital fund, which Arcapita will anchor with an initial investment of approximately \$40 million. The fund, called Arcapita Ventures, will be one of the largest of its kind in the Southeast.

Arcapita's global head of Corporate Investment Charlie Ogburn said, "This is a logical extension of our activities. We started with corporate buyouts, moved into real estate and have recently had great success in asset-based investments, such as our European wind farm deal. Arcapita will bring a long term, institutional approach to the venture investment business, in keeping with the way we run our other asset classes."

Ogburn stressed that Arcapita Ventures will have no geographic limitations on its investments. "While we will look for deals nationwide, we have a broad and deep network of contacts and relationships in the Southeast, and we recognize that a vacuum exists for this type of capital in the region."

The company also announced today that long-time private equity manager John J. Huntz, Jr., is joining Arcapita to lead the new fund, effective immediately.

"There is a tremendous opportunity for Arcapita to extend its reach into the venture component of the private equity business," Huntz said. "Arcapita's initial \$40 million commitment means we're open for business, and ready to start considering investments. Our strategy will be to provide growth and expansion capital to existing companies, not start-ups, with a primary focus on the IT and healthcare sectors. This will be one of the largest venture funds based in the Southeast, and we will be using this base to source deals both from the region and nationwide."

Ogburn said, "We have the right person managing the fund. John is one of the most respected venture investment professionals in the nation. He's an astute manager and has a proven ability to identify companies with great potential. He is also very experienced in helping companies to grow into the larger, more successful organizations that will provide solid returns to our investors."

Huntz said Arcapita is currently assembling a team of professionals to manage the fund, which he expects to be fully funded by the spring of 2006.

### **About John J. Huntz, Jr.**

Huntz has 25 years experience in the private equity business. For the last 14 years, he has been working with the Fuqua companies, most recently as managing director of Fuqua Ventures.

In addition to his responsibilities at Fuqua, Huntz has a long history of investment and community work. He is the chairman of the board of Manhattan Associates, chairman of GMP Companies, and serves on the board of Proficient Systems. Huntz is the president and founder of the Atlanta Venture Forum, a widely recognized risk capital network in the Southeast. He served as a member of the board of directors of the National Venture Capital Association and is a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission's Executive Committee on Small Business Capital Formation. Huntz is also chairman of the Georgia Logistics Innovation Council, a member of the Commission for a New Georgia, and on the board of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

Huntz also serves as chairman or board member for a number of non-profit organizations.

He received his BBA from Niagara University and received his MBA from Sacred Heart University.

**About Arcapita**

Arcapita is a global investment firm with offices in Atlanta, London and Bahrain. Arcapita's main lines of business include corporate investment, real estate investment and asset based investment. Arcapita's corporate investment line of business was founded in 1997 and operates out of Atlanta and London. Since 1998, Arcapita's corporate investment professionals have arranged for equity investments of more than \$1 billion in 17 transactions with an aggregate enterprise value of over \$2 billion.

Other companies in Arcapita's current portfolio include TLC Health Care Services, the second largest provider of Medicare home nursing services in the U.S.; Caribou Coffee, the nation's second largest company-owned specialty retailer of premium brewed and roasted whole bean coffee; Church's Chicken™, the third largest chicken QSR in the world; Loehmann's, a leading specialty retailer of well-known designer and brand name women's and men's fashion apparel, accessories and shoes; and Cirrus, the largest manufacturer of single-engine, piston-powered, general aviation aircraft in the world. Further information on Arcapita can be found at [www.arcapita.com](http://www.arcapita.com).

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