SVB Financial Group

Starmine Receives Equipment Financing from Silicon Valley Bank

San Francisco, CA -- September 12, 2001 -- Silicon Valley Bank (the "Bank"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Silicon Valley Bancshares, announced it provided StarMine with $1 million in equipment financing.

San Francisco-based StarMine provides independent, objective ratings of Wall Street securities analysts by measuring analysts on stock-picking performance and the accuracy of earnings predictions. StarMine leverages its analyst ratings to generate superior predictions of company earnings and stock price movement.

"StarMine is pleased to be involved with a financial institution that understands our business so well," said Steve Solodoff, chief financial officer of StarMine. "We look forward to that Silicon Valley Bank helping us accelerate our growth through all phases of our business life cycle."

"We are delighted to be working with one of the most innovative providers of software to the investment banking community," said Chris Wagner, senior vice president in Silicon Valley Bank's San Francisco office.

About StarMine®
StarMine's (www.starmine.com) mission is to provide the most trusted and objective ratings of Wall Street securities analysts by measuring their stock-picking performance and the accuracy of their earnings predictions.

StarMine provides institutional investors with sophisticated Web-based software to analyze, visualize, and mine current and historical analyst data, measure the performance of Wall Street analysts, and generate profitable predictors.

Many of the world's largest money managers are StarMine clients, including 7 of the top 35 firms, and their real-world feedback on previous products has contributed to the proprietary metrics that drive StarMine Professional.

A privately held company founded in 1998, StarMine is based in San Francisco with offices in New York, Boston, and Denver. StarMine investors include venture capital firms Hummer Winblad Venture Partners and American Century Ventures.

About Silicon Valley Bank
Silicon Valley Bank serves emerging growth and middle market companies in targeted niches, focusing on technology and life sciences, while also addressing other specific industries in which it can provide a higher level of service and better manage credit through specialization and focus.

The Bank operates throughout the Silicon Valley: Santa Clara, Palo Alto and Sand Hill, the center of the venture capital community in California. Other regional offices within California include: Irvine, Los Angeles, Napa Valley, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Sonoma. Office locations outside of California include: Phoenix, Arizona; Boulder, Colorado; West Palm Beach, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Boston, Massachusetts; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Durham, North Carolina; Portland, Oregon; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Austin, Texas; Dallas, Texas; Northern Virginia; and Seattle, Washington.

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