

For immediate release

TRIPP JOHNSON JOINS CORNERSTONE TEAM

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona /June 2, 2003/ – Cornerstone Advisors announced today that it has added Tripp Johnson as a Senior Director in its Scottsdale office.

Johnson brings to Cornerstone an extensive background in retail banking systems development and administration as well as a hands-on, leading edge understanding of technology and eBusiness/eCommerce trends within the financial sector. He held the position of Chief Technology Officer, Retail Markets & Products Technology, for Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), where he directed the development and implementation of a three-year retail banking technology plan. Prior to CIBC Johnson was Vice President eBusiness Technology, eBusiness Group, for RBC Royal Bank.

“We are excited to add Tripp to our staff,” said Scott Sommer, Cornerstone President and CEO. “His banking and e-commerce expertise are invaluable assets that will greatly assist our clients in understanding channel integration strategies and the role Web-based technologies will play in their strategic initiatives.”

Johnson’s U.S. experience includes serving as Senior Vice President, Electronic Commerce Group, for Crestar Financial Corporation (now SunTrust Bank), one of the leading financial institutions in customer-focused, online banking services, and as Manager of New Technologies for First Tennessee Bank in Memphis, Tennessee.

Johnson holds an MA degree in English as well as an undergraduate degree in English and Political Science from the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi.

Cornerstone Advisors, a management consulting firm focused exclusively on banks and credit unions, provides services in the areas of: strategic planning and facilitation, benchmarking and "best practices," process reengineering and profitability improvement, technology assessments and technology planning, system selection, and contract negotiation. The Cornerstone team founded industry renowned [GonzoBanker](#) and regularly contributes research, studies and expertise to the credit union community through [CUES Tech Port](#).

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