# Easton Associates Joins Navigant

The Associated Press

CHICAGO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct 3, 2012--Navigant (NYSE: NCI) announced today that it has acquired the business of Easton Associates (Easton), an international consulting firm specializing in product and business strategy for companies in the life sciences industries. The addition of more than 40 Easton professionals creates a team of more than 90 total Navigant professionals focused on services for the intensely competitive and highly regulated life sciences industry. Easton professionals are based in several of Navigant's existing locations including New York, Chicago and London.

"This combination of two highly regarded firms in the life sciences market adds new capabilities and scale to the benefit of our valued clients," said Eduardo Schur, Managing Director and leader of Navigant's Life Sciences practice. "Additionally, the combination of our talents in concert with our Healthcare payer and provider practices will result in a broad spectrum of services to address increased complexities in pharmaceutical, biotech, medical device and diagnostic industries. Our collective experience, innovative capacity and ability to understand current and future trends will be a timely asset to our clients." Founded in 2000, Easton assists clients with business strategy development, opportunity assessment, due diligence, R&D portfolio management, new business planning, new product planning and related issues. The significant expertise of Easton's professionals, many of whom have advanced degrees in medicine and pharmaceutical science, has led to multiple longstanding client relationships with large pharmaceutical firms, specialty pharmaceutical companies, biotech firms and medical and diagnostic device companies.

"Innovation is a cornerstone of Easton's philosophy," said Kris Lowe, Managing Director, Easton Associates. "Navigant shares that commitment with Easton which made the firm a perfect fit for our Easton professionals. Our entire senior management team feels that the transition to Navigant is the right decision not only because the two firms are complementary in the services that we provide, but also in the shared vision of delivering excellence to our clients." No further details about the transaction were disclosed.

About Navigant Healthcare Navigant Healthcare brings together more than 500 seasoned consulting professionals and industry thought leaders who assist health systems, physician organizations and payers in designing, developing and implementing integrated solutions that create high-performing healthcare organizations. Through a unique interdisciplinary approach leveraging the depth and breadth of our experience as healthcare executives, clinicians, and physicians, Navigant Healthcare enables clients to build their capabilities and achieve sustainable peak performance around quality of care, cost, leadership, and culture in today's changing healthcare environment. More information about Navigant Healthcare can be found at www.navigant.com/healthcare.

Navigant's Life Sciences practice is part of Navigant Healthcare and assists global life sciences companies in gaining competitive advantage by maximizing their business development, market access, strategic marketing, marketing research, brand management, and pricing and reimbursement initiatives. The team's 90 consultants include healthcare executives, clinicians and commercial leaders who develop innovative, integrated custom solutions for global pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, diagnostic, biomarkers and drug delivery companies. More information about Navigant Life Sciences can be found at www.navigant.com/lifesciences.

About Navigant Navigant (NYSE: NCI) is a specialized, global expert services firm dedicated to assisting clients in creating and protecting value in the face of critical business risks and opportunities. Through senior level engagement with clients, Navigant professionals combine technical expertise in Disputes and Investigations, Economics, Financial Advisory and Management Consulting, with business pragmatism in the highly regulated Construction, Energy, Financial Services and Healthcare industries to support clients in addressing their most critical business needs. More information about Navigant can be found at www.navigant.com.

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