



## Press Release

Stockholm, 18 April 2001

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### NeoNet will Offer its Clients Electronic Trading Access to NASDAQ Through BRUT

**NeoNet makes a major move in its efforts to become an electronic marketplace for global equity trading as it early next year will offer its clients electronic access to NASDAQ through The BRUT ECN, L.L.C., a leading U.S. ECN. The agreement with BRUT may also be extended to trading access to the U.S. so called listed market (New York Stock Exchange and the regional exchanges).**

When the electronic connection to NASDAQ is implemented, slightly less than half of the world's market capitalization will be available through NeoNet. Today NeoNet offer more than 50 percent of the European market capitalization through electronic connections to the stock exchanges in London, Frankfurt, Stockholm, Helsinki and Copenhagen. During third quarter this year NeoNet plans to also connect to the Euronext exchanges: Paris, Amsterdam and Brussels.

"The agreement will give our institutional investor and broker-dealer clients in eleven countries transparent electronic access to one of the world's most attractive equity markets", said Torvald Bohlin CEO of NeoNet. "The agreement with BRUT moves NeoNet closer to its goal of being a leading electronic marketplace for global equity trading. A connection to the U.S. equity market is a major step in our strategy of offering electronic trading access to the majority of the world's leading stock exchanges"

"We are happy to welcome NeoNet as an important client of BRUT, and a user of our electronic access product", said Richard D. Schenkman, CEO of The BRUT ECN, "as we focus increasingly on providing the international trading community with direct and efficient access to the U.S. equity markets."

#### About The BRUT ECN

The BRUT ECN is one of the fastest-growing alternative trading systems in the NASDAQ market, and is one of the four largest ECNs in the U.S. BRUT currently has 365 U.S. institutional investor and broker-dealer clients. Trading volumes now average 100 million shares per day - accounting for approximately 5 percent of NASDAQ volume based on single count methodology. BRUT is headquartered in New York City.

The BRUT ECN is owned and supported by some of the most respected names on Wall Street, adding to BRUT's assurance of liquidity and majority market coverage. Board members include executives from: Bear Stearns; Bridge Trading Company; Goldman Sachs; Herzog Heine Geduld; Knight Trading Group; Merrill Lynch; Morgan Stanley Dean Witter; Salomon Smith Barney and SunGuard Data Systems.

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NeoNet is a leading provider of real time equity execution services for institutional investors and broker-dealers. Through its electronic execution network NeoNet provides its clients with efficient, secure and anonymous access to currently over 50 % of the equity market capitalization in Europe. NeoNet focuses on providing single access to multiple securities markets worldwide. Currently NeoNet has clients in eleven countries including the U.S. NeoNet has 60 employees with offices in Stockholm and New York and is listed on Stockholm Stock Exchange.

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