



**FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS WINS  
DEAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR ITS ROLE AS  
IPO ADVISOR TO LEADING PAYMENTS TECHNOLOGY FIRM VERIFONE**

*VeriFone Stock Up Over 250% From IPO as of 12/31/05*

**San Francisco, December 2005** – Financial Technology Partners LLC and FTP Securities LLC (“FT Partners”), founded by former Goldman Sachs (NYSE: GS) senior banker Steve McLaughlin, is pleased to announce being awarded Deal of the Year by *The M&A Advisor* for its role as IPO Advisor to VeriFone Holdings, Inc. (“VeriFone”) (NYSE:PAY) in its \$177 million initial public offering in April 2005. FT Partners was nominated by *The M&A Advisor* for six awards in various categories. FT Partners was selected as “Investment Banking Firm of the Year” in 2004.

The highly coveted “Computer and Information Technology Deal of the Year” award was formally announced by *The M&A Advisor* at its annual awards dinner on Monday, December 5, 2005 at the New York Athletic Club in New York City. Event attendees included many prominent investment banking and private equity firms focused on middle market M&A.

“We are honored to have had the opportunity to advise VeriFone’s CEO Doug Bergeron on one of the best performing IPOs of 2005,” said Mr. McLaughlin. “FT Partners played a very unique role in this transaction, working as VeriFone’s inside investment banker in preparing for the IPO in every respect from S-1 drafting to underwriter selection to differentiated market positioning.”

FT Partners was also nominated by *The M&A Advisor* for the following awards:

- Deal Maker of the Year (Steve McLaughlin)
- Investment Banking Firm of the Year
- B to B Deal of the Year (ITG, Inc. \$230 million acquisition of The MacGregor Group)
- Financing Deal of the Year (Liquidnet \$250 million Private Placement)
- Financial Services Deal of the Year (Liquidnet \$250 million Private Placement)

***About Financial Technology Partners LLC and FTP Securities LLC***

FT Partners is the only investment banking firm focused exclusively on providing strategic and financial advisory services to CEOs in the dynamic financial services and technology sector. Mr. McLaughlin formerly was a senior investment banker in Goldman, Sachs & Co.’s Financial Technology Group and was the senior investment banker in the Financial Institutions Group in San Francisco before leaving the firm to form FT Partners. FT Partners is comprised of a team of experienced investment bankers formerly with the financial technology, M&A and investment banking groups of Goldman Sachs, Credit Suisse First Boston, and J.P. Morgan. FT Partners was selected by *The M&A Advisor* as “Investment Banking Firm of the Year” for 2004 and for its role as IPO advisor to VeriFone Holdings, Inc. in the “Computer and Information Technology Deal of the Year” for 2005. The firm offers CEO-level services, including mergers and acquisitions advisory, IPO advisory, refinancing, recapitalization and private capital raising. FT Partners was founded by Mr. McLaughlin in late 2001 and is based in San Francisco. For additional information, visit [www.ftpartners.com](http://www.ftpartners.com).

***About VeriFone Holdings, Inc.***

VeriFone, a global leader in secure electronic payment technologies, provides expertise, solutions and services for today with a migration strategy for tomorrow. VeriFone delivers solutions that add value to the point of sale, resulting in improved merchant retention and the generation of new sources of revenue for its partners and customers. VeriFone solutions are specifically designed to meet the needs of vertical markets including financial, retail, petroleum, government and healthcare. For additional information, visit <http://www.ftpartners.com>.

###

**For media inquiries, please contact:**

Sarah Wilson  
[sarah.wilson@ftpartners.com](mailto:sarah.wilson@ftpartners.com)  
415-321-5012

**or**

Steve McLaughlin  
[steve.mclaughlin@ftpartners.com](mailto:steve.mclaughlin@ftpartners.com)  
415-385-9318