



COHEN & COMPANY CAPITAL MARKETS, LLC COMPLETES AUSTRALIA ACQUISITION CORP. INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING

New York, New York, November 19, 2010 – Cohen & Company Capital Markets, LLC has announced that it acted as representative of the underwriters for the initial public offering of Australia Acquisition Corp. (NASDAQ: AACOU). Through the underwriting syndicate led by Cohen & Company Capital Markets, LLC 6,400,000 units were sold in Australia Acquisition Corp.'s initial public offering at a price of \$10.00 per unit, generating gross proceeds to the company of \$64,000,000. Simultaneously, Australia Acquisition Corp. completed the private sale of 8,000,000 warrants at a price of \$0.50 per warrant, generating gross proceeds to the company of \$4,000,000.

Cohen & Company Capital Markets, LLC acted as the sole book running manager and representative of the underwriters of the offering. I-Bankers Securities, Inc. and EarlyBirdCapital, Inc. acted as co-managers of the offering. A copy of the prospectus with respect to the offering may be obtained from Cohen & Company Capital Markets, LLC, 135 East 57th Street, New York, New York 10022.

Australia Acquisition Corp. is a newly-formed blank check company organized for the purpose of acquiring or acquiring control of one or more as of yet unidentified operating businesses or assets through a merger, capital stock exchange, asset or stock acquisition, exchangeable share transaction or other similar business transaction. The Company will not be limited to a particular industry or geographic region for purposes of consummating an initial business transaction, but intends to focus on operating businesses that have their primary operations located in the Commonwealth of Australia.

This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state or jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or jurisdiction.

About Cohen & Company

Cohen & Company is a leading investment firm specializing in credit-related fixed income investments. Cohen & Company was founded in 1999 as an investment firm focused on small-cap banking institutions, but has grown over the past ten years into a more diversified fixed income specialist. Cohen & Company's primary operating segments are Capital Markets and Asset Management. The Company's Capital Markets segment consists of credit-related fixed income sales and trading as well as new issue placements in corporate and securitized products. Cohen & Company's Asset Management segment manages assets through listed and private companies, funds, managed accounts and collateralized debt obligations. As of September 30, 2010, we manage approximately \$10.6 billion in credit-related fixed income assets in a variety of asset classes, including U.S. trust preferred securities, European hybrid capital securities, Asian commercial real estate debt, and mortgage- and asset-backed securities.

Forward-looking Statements

This communication contains certain statements, estimates and forecasts with respect to future performance and events. These statements, estimates and forecasts are "forward-looking statements." In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "might," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or "continue" or the negatives thereof or variations thereon or similar terminology. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this communication are forward-looking

statements and are based on various underlying assumptions and expectations and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions, and may include projections of our future financial performance based on our growth strategies and anticipated trends in our business. These statements are based on our current expectations and projections about future events. There are important factors that could cause our actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to differ materially from the results, level of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, the fact that we may not be able to complete the JVB transaction, in addition to those discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition” in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), which are available at the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov and our website at www.cohenandcompany.com/sec-filings. Such risk factors include the following: (a) a decline in general economic conditions or the global financial markets, (b) losses caused by financial or other problems experienced by third parties, (c) losses due to unidentified or unanticipated risks, (d) a lack of liquidity, i.e., ready access to funds for use in our businesses, (e) the ability to attract and retain personnel, (f) litigation and regulatory issues, (g) competitive pressure; and (h) a potential Ownership Change under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code. As a result, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this communication will prove to be accurate or correct. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the future performance or events described in the forward-looking statements in this communication might not occur. Accordingly, you should not rely upon forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results and we do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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