CPI Qualified Plan Consultants, Inc. (CPI) headquartered in Great Bend, Kansas has been acquired by A.G. Edwards, Inc. of St. Louis, Missouri in a cash transaction. Bicknell Advisory Services, Inc. of Scarsdale, New York represented CPI in the evaluation of corporate development opportunities, initiated this transaction and negotiated on behalf of the seller. Bicknell Advisory Services led an investor group in the acquisition and financial restructuring of CPI in 1998.

CPI is a pension plan administrator specializing in the administration of small and medium-sized pension plans on a nationwide basis. CPI is one of the most highly regarded pension administrators in the United States, based on the high quality of the service it provides. CPI has instilled a culture of success throughout its organization by administering plans using documented procedures for all tasks, and continuously engaging in a quality review of all major processes. CPI employees 240 highly trained individuals, many with professional qualifications.

A.G. Edwards, Inc. provides brokerage and financial planning services for investors nationwide and an extensive array of services to business owners and executives, including assistance with employee benefits, cash management, raising capital, ownership/management succession issues and executive compensation programs. A.G. Edwards will operate CPI as a wholly-owned subsidiary. CPI will continue to serve its existing client base and will immediately begin supporting A.G. Edwards customers as well. Existing operating management will continue with the company.