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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BENCHMARK'S CLIENTS SURVIVED 2008 - NOW PROSPERING!**

Combined Client Composite Portfolio *Up 4% for 2009*

Once again, Benchmark demonstrated the effectiveness of the full integration of socially responsible & sustainable investing with modern portfolio management. Building on the 2008 preservation of capital (client composite return - 5.1%) Benchmark clients' portfolios slightly out-performed a traditional 60/40 allocation in the first half of 2009. Over the longer period (3 years) **Benchmark posted a positive 4.1% return - fully 650 basis points (annualized) over the traditional 60/40 mix!**

	<u>Q2 2009</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Years</u>
<b>Benchmark Client Composite*</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>- 2.0%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>
Default 60/40 Blended Indices **	12.3%	3.9%	-12.9%	-2.4%

Benchmark's investment stewardship is achieved by combining innovative impact investment strategies with rigorous financial risk management. For example, our High Impact investment strategy invests in well managed, undervalued social and environmental leading public companies worldwide (global small cap asset class). Examples include:

- **Portec Rail Products (PRPX)** – a supplier making environmentally tailored products like soy based lubricants as an alternative to petroleum-based rail curve greases.
- **Tetra Tech (TTEK)** – a R&D firm providing safe and sustainable solutions that help with fundamental needs like water, environmental and alternative energy services.

Not only are we finding undervalued companies that are making a difference financially and sustainably, but our returns with this strategy for our clients have been well above market.

In our continuing partnership with the **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors** and the **Association of Small Foundations** our next "Mission Related Investing – Why Now?" seminar for foundations will be in Portland, OR on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Call for more detail.

*\*The Benchmark Asset Managers LLC Client Composite is the total time-weighted return (cap weighted), net of fees, of all client portfolio's managed by Benchmark Asset Managers LLC. Returns are calculated monthly. Before January 2008 returns were calculated quarterly.*

*\*\*Traditional 60/40 portfolio defined as:*

*35% US Large Cap (Domini 400), 10% US Small Cap (Russell 2000), 15% Large Cap International (EAFE), 30% US bonds (Barclay Intermediate Gov/Credit Index) & 10% Cash (3 Month T-Bill).*