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NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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**CALVIN ZHANG JOINS ALLEGIANT ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY'S
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH TEAM**

CLEVELAND – September 10, 2008 – Allegiant Asset Management Company is pleased to announce that Calvin Zhang has joined the firm's International Growth team as a senior investment analyst/portfolio manager. Calvin will focus on research and analysis of foreign, growth-oriented securities for the firm's international strategies, including separately managed accounts and the Allegiant International Equity Fund. The firm will bring its international growth strategy to market later this year after demonstrating successful results for a number of years.

"We are pleased to continue to attract the caliber of talent Calvin brings to Allegiant," said John Abunassar, president and CEO of Allegiant. "With his extensive knowledge of the Asian and information technology markets and his institutional portfolio management experience, Calvin is a great addition to the organization."

Before joining Allegiant, Zhang worked for Driehaus Capital Management as an analyst, covering Asia-Pacific, and as a portfolio manager of the Driehaus International Select Fund. Previously, Calvin served as an advisory client representative for IBM and as a diplomat in the foreign affairs office of Guangdong, China. While in graduate school at the University of Rochester, he was an analyst with the school's endowment fund.

Calvin holds undergraduate degrees in English and computer science from the South China University of Technology and an M.B.A. from the University of Rochester. He will work directly with Martin Schulz, managing director of international equity investments at Allegiant.

About Allegiant Asset Management Company

Allegiant Asset Management Company offers institutional investment capabilities through a comprehensive range of asset classes and styles including traditional and non-traditional. Allegiant is dedicated to producing strong, competitive results to meet the diverse investment requirements of corporations, public entities, Taft-Hartley organizations, foundations and other institutional clients. With \$29.4 billion in assets under management, the firm's independent investment teams are supported by a centralized sales, service and support model, which enables them to do what they do best – manage our clients' portfolios either through separately managed portfolios and/or mutual funds. Allegiant is an SEC-registered investment advisor and a subsidiary of National City Corporation (R). Allegiant also provides retirement services for defined benefit and defined contribution plans, as well as trustee, custody and securities lending services to clients nationwide through Allegiant Institutional Services, a business unit of National City Bank.

About National City

National City Corporation (NYSE: NCC), headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive banking network primarily in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its core businesses include commercial and retail banking, mortgage financing and servicing, consumer finance and asset management. For more information about National City, visit the company's Web site at www.nationalcity.com.

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