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**AUSTIN VENTURES SUPPORTS LAUNCH OF FUND VII
WITH SEASONED INVESTMENT PROFESSIONALS**

*Chris Pacitti, Venu Shamapant join Austin Ventures' investment team;
Ross Cockrell, Stephen Straus promoted to partner*

AUSTIN, Texas – November 22, 1999 – Continuing to underscore its commitment to help entrepreneurs build world-class businesses, Austin Ventures announced today that the firm has expanded its diverse team of investment professionals to include Chris Pacitti, former vice president of TL Ventures, as partner and Venu Shamapant, formerly with Telecom Technologies, Inc. as principal. Pacitti and Shamapant joined Austin Ventures to support the recent closure of Fund VII which brought the firm's total capital under management to \$1.611 billion. Additionally, Stephen Strauss and Ross Cockrell have been promoted to partner.

"Building a world-class business begins by engaging entrepreneurs with highly skilled and focused investment professionals," said John Thornton, general partner, Austin Ventures. "With the addition of Chris and Venu to the team, we continue to expand our support of entrepreneurial activity in the Southwest. Stephen and Ross' years of expertise at Austin Ventures clearly ranks our leadership team among the most seasoned in the venture industry."

Formerly a vice president at TL Ventures, Chris Pacitti joins Austin Ventures as partner and will focus on the firm's business-to-business services and e-commerce sector. Pacitti's portfolio

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investments have included enterprise software and communication companies. Prior to joining TL Ventures, Pacitti was a co-founder and chief operating officer of a technology start-up company that pioneered several industrial applications for a novel oxidizing chemistry.

Venu Shamapant joins Austin Ventures as a principal from Telecom Technologies Inc., a supplier of telecom software and network services, where he was vice president of corporate strategy and special projects. Previously, Shamapant was an engagement manager with McKinsey & Co., Inc. Shamapant will work with companies in the applications and infrastructure sector, as well as the communications sector.

Since 1995, Ross Cockrell has focused on Internet business-to-business e-commerce and services at Austin Ventures. As partner, Cockrell will continue to direct investments in iMark.com, emerging.com and showsupport.com, while also working with other investments including TrinTel, Akili Systems, supportkids.com and TexSYS RD.

Stephen Straus joined Austin Ventures in 1996 and spearheads the firm's semiconductor initiative. As partner, Straus will continue to work with Austin Ventures' investments in Cygnal Integrated Products, Extreme Devices, Silicon Labs and Silicon Metrics among others. Straus is one of the founders of AustinChips, a network for semiconductor entrepreneurs that was launched in November 1999.

Other Investment Professionals at Austin Ventures

General Partners:	Joe Aragona, Ken DeAngelis, Jeff Garvey, Ed Olkkola, John Thornton, Blaine Wesner
Principals:	John Dirvin, Brian Goffman
Associates:	Shawn Kelly, Rob Kornblum
Venture Partners:	Shelby Carter, Jim Clardy, Chris Grafft, John McHale, Dan Shimer, Bob Stearns, Jimmy Treybig

About Austin Ventures

Since 1979, Austin Ventures has grown to be the largest venture capital firm in the Southwest. With more than \$1.6 billion of capital under management, Austin Ventures is one of the largest venture capital firms in the United States. Investing hundreds of millions of dollars in companies during early stages of development, Austin Ventures' expertise and funding have helped lead companies like Tivoli, Vignette, Crossroads Systems and others onto the road of success. For more information on Austin Ventures, its portfolio, and investment strategy, please visit www.austinventures.com.

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