

For Immediate Release

R.J.O'Brien Full Clearing Members of all New York Futures Exchanges

CHICAGO October 1, 2002 – R.J.O'Brien (RJO), a leading futures commission merchant (FCM), is pleased to announce that as of October 1, 2002, it is a full clearing member of the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX). The NYMEX memberships are the final pieces in RJO's overall strategy to expand its US market presence by joining all the New York exchanges. In the first quarter of 2002, RJO joined the New York Board of Trade (NYBOT) as well as the COMEX. The New York expansion will enable RJO to improve its futures brokerage services and, they are confident that they will achieve the same levels of success that they have had in Chicago markets.

Founded in 1914, RJO is a privately owned FCM. It is one of the oldest and well-known, independent futures brokerage houses in the industry. RJO services a nationwide network of approximately 200 introducing brokers and some of the largest institutions in the world. RJO is a founding member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, a full clearing member of the Chicago Board of Trade, and offer full service execution and clearing on every futures exchange worldwide.

For more information please contact Jim O'Brien at 312.373.5000

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