

## **MHT PARTNERS ANNOUNCES THE ACQUISITION OF EDUCATIONCITY BY ARCHIPELAGO LEARNING**

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DALLAS, TX, July 1, 2010 – MHT proudly announces that Archipelago Learning, Inc. (Nasdaq: ARCL), a leading subscription-based online education company whose core product, Study Island, supplies web-based, state standards specific instructional materials for U.S., K-12 classrooms that improve the performance of educators and students, acquired privately held, UK-based EducationCity Ltd, a leading developer and publisher of EducationCity.com, an online K-12 educational content and assessment program.

Exclusively delivered online in over 8,200 schools in the U.K. and over 4,800 schools in the U.S., EducationCity is a classroom, computer lab and homework resource, harnessing interactivity, animation and humor to provide basic instruction in reading, math and science to children between 3 and 12 years old. The program also incorporates powerful teacher features to support lesson delivery. As with Study Island, EducationCity can be accessed via any web browser – anytime, anywhere – is highly engaging, is proven to improve students' learning performance, and is very affordable.

Shawn D. Terry, MHT Partners' Managing Director states, "We are thrilled to have served as Archipelago's exclusive advisor in adding EducationCity as an incredible complement to Archipelago's core product base. MHT has thoroughly enjoyed its 4-year relationship with Archipelago and its management team and is proud of the work and accomplishments of our teams to date. Archipelago is a leader in the education industry, and we're proud to have played a role in the growth of such a dynamic company."

Tom Burgett, Principal of MHT Partners, adds, "Our team worked closely with both Archipelago's and EducationCity's management teams to complete a thorough but timely review of EducationCity's business. We are confident in the bright future of this global education company and what it will do for students and teachers around the world."

### About Archipelago Learning

Archipelago Learning is a leading subscription-based online education company that provides standards-based instruction, practice, assessments and productivity tools that improve the performance of educators and students via proprietary web-based platforms. Study Island, the core product line, helps students in kindergarten through 12th grade master grade-level academic standards in a fun and engaging manner. Study Island products are utilized by over 10 million students in approximately 21,800 schools in all 50 states, Washington D.C. and Canada. For more information, please visit [www.archipelagolearning.com](http://www.archipelagolearning.com). Archipelago is headquartered in Dallas, Texas.

### About MHT Partners ([www.mhtpartners.com](http://www.mhtpartners.com))

Founded in 2001 with offices in Dallas, Texas and Boston, Massachusetts, MHT is an investment bank focused on providing the highest level of advisory services to growth-oriented middle market companies, private equity fund managers and private equity limited partners. MHT's staff of professionals has built a track record of providing exceptional transaction execution and a premium level of service to its clients. We are committed to developing long-term, trusted relationships through our hard work, dedication and superior capabilities. MHT offers its services through two business lines: MHT Partners offers M&A advisory, capital raising and strategic advisory services to high-growth middle market companies and MHT Secondary Advisors provides private equity limited partners with buy-side and sell-side advisory services for secondary fund interests and fund valuation services. MHT Partners and MHT Secondary Advisors conduct their investment banking activities through MHT Securities, L.P., a member of the FINRA/SIPC.

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