

# William Blair & Company®

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### **William Blair & Company Introduces William Blair Bond Fund**

Chicago, May 1, 2007 – William Blair & Company, L.L.C., distributor to the William Blair Funds, today announced the launch of the William Blair Bond Fund. The Fund seeks to outperform the Lehman Brothers U.S. Aggregate Index by maximizing total return through a combination of income and capital appreciation. It is managed by Christopher T. Vincent, James S. Kaplan, and Benjamin Armstrong.

"We're delighted to offer the William Blair Bond Fund to investors," said Michelle Seitz, CFA, head of Investment Management and a member of the firm's executive committee. "This new fund has a longer duration and broader investment mandate than our other fixed-income offering, the William Blair Income Fund. The team managing the Fund is very talented and collectively has more than 68 years of experience in fixed-income investing. They also manage our Institutional Core Bond separate accounts, which have substantially similar investment objectives and strategies to the Fund. As with all William Blair & Company investment vehicles, the William Blair Bond Fund will be managed with a high-quality and disciplined approach."

The Fund invests in U.S.-dollar-denominated securities. The broad sectors represented in the portfolio include government securities, corporate debt securities issued by domestic and foreign companies, mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities. The Fund invests primarily in investment-grade securities, which are those rated in the highest four categories by at least one of the following three nationally recognized statistical rating organizations: Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investor Service, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Corporation. The Fund may not invest more than 10% of the Fund's net assets in below-investment-grade securities.

### **About William Blair & Company**

William Blair & Company, L.L.C. is a Chicago-based investment firm offering investment banking, asset management, equity research, institutional and private brokerage, and private capital to individual, institutional, and issuing clients. Since 1935, we have been committed to helping clients achieve their financial objectives. As an independent, employee-owned firm, our philosophy is to serve our clients' interests first and foremost. We place a high value on the enduring nature of our client relationships, the quality of our products and services, and the continuity and integrity of our people. William Blair & Company has offices in Chicago, Boston, Hartford, London, San Francisco, Shanghai, Tokyo, Vaduz, and Zurich. For more information, please visit [www.williamblair.com](http://www.williamblair.com).

### **About William Blair Investment Management**

William Blair Investment Management is the asset management operation of William Blair & Company, L.L.C., consisting of the institutional, mutual fund, and wealth management businesses. With nearly \$44 billion in assets under management as of March 31, 2007, William Blair Investment Management provides customized and structured portfolios for cash, domestic fixed income, and domestic, international, and global equities. The group also acts as the investment advisor to a family of 16 open-end mutual funds. More information about the William Blair Funds is available at [www.williamblairfunds.com](http://www.williamblairfunds.com).

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Disclosure:

**As interest rates rise, bond prices will fall and bond funds become more volatile.**

**Please carefully consider the Bond Fund’s investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. This and other information is contained in the Fund’s prospectus, which you may obtain by calling 1-800-742-7272. Read it carefully before you invest or send money.**

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