



For Immediate Release

6 October 2003

JZ Equity Partners Plc (“JZEP”)

IPO of Universal Technical Institute, Inc.

JZ Equity Partners Plc (“JZEP”) is pleased to announce that on Friday, 3 October 2003 Universal Technical Institute, Inc. (“UTI”) filed a registration statement as the first step towards an initial public offering (“IPO”) on NASDAQ. UTI is a leading provider of technical education and training to industry customers requiring professional service technicians.

UTI is JZEP’s largest holding within its portfolio and the implied total value in the registration statement for JZEP’s shareholders is of the order of US\$80.0 million, which is substantially above its current valuation in JZEP’s portfolio of US\$44.9 million. As with all filings of this nature there can be no assurance that the offering will be successfully completed. In addition, if the offering does proceed the sale by JZEP of part or all of its equity holding would be subject to various restrictions.

JZEP is also pleased to announce the sale of its position in Fastsigns International realising a profit of US\$6.3 million, an uplift of approximately US\$1.0 million above JZEP’s valuation at 31 March 2003. JZEP’s total proceeds for the sale were approximately US\$7.6 million including repayment of its investment in preferred stock with accrued dividends.

Contact:

JZ Equity Partners
Andrew Withey, Chairman 020 7491 3633

Buchanan Communications
Mark Edwards / Catherine Miles 020 7466 5000