# **QuinStreet Announces Fiscal Third Quarter Results**

# Company Posts 30% Top Line Growth; 20% Adjusted EBITDA Margin

**Foster City, CA – May 5, 2010 –** QuinStreet, Inc. (NASDAQ: QNST), a leader in vertical marketing and media on the Internet, today announced its financial results for the fiscal third quarter and nine months ended March 31, 2010.

For the third quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company reported total revenue of \$90.8 million, an increase of 30% over the third quarter of fiscal 2009. For the nine month period ended March 31, 2010, the Company reported total revenue of \$246.3 million, an increase of 28% over the same period of fiscal 2009.

The Company reported net income of \$5.3 million, or \$0.11 per diluted common share, for the third quarter of fiscal 2010. Adjusted net income for the quarter was \$9.4 million, or \$0.21 per diluted common share. Adjusted net income excludes stock-based compensation expense and amortization of intangible assets, net of estimated tax.

Revenue for the Financial Services client vertical was \$41.7 million for the fiscal third quarter, an increase of 70% as compared to the same quarter of fiscal 2009. Revenue for the Education client vertical was \$38.1 million for the fiscal third quarter, a decrease of 1% as compared to the year-ago quarter. Revenue growth in the Education client vertical was 23% excluding revenue from a large education client undergoing a previously disclosed change in their online marketing strategy. Revenue for Other client verticals was \$10.9 million for the fiscal third quarter, an increase of 64% as compared to the year-ago quarter.

Adjusted EBITDA for the quarter was \$18.3 million, or 20% of revenue. It was \$51.5 million, or 21% of revenue, for the nine month period ended March 31, 2010.

Free cash flow for the quarter was \$12.4 million, or 14% of revenue. It was \$26.8 million, or 11% of revenue, for the nine month period ended March 31, 2010.

Reconciliations of adjusted EBITDA to net income, adjusted net income to net income, and free cash flow to net cash provided by operating activities are included in the accompanying tables.

"We are pleased with our fiscal third quarter financial results, and we are excited about the progress we made serving visitors and clients in all of our verticals," commented Doug Valenti, QuinStreet CEO. "Our growth momentum remained strong, driven by increases in visitor volumes and deepening relationships with clients. Adjusted EBITDA came in at our annual target margin of 20%, inclusive of continued aggressive investment in future capabilities and growth."

"We welcome our new public shareholders. We are honored by their confidence, and we will work hard to earn their ongoing support," concluded Valenti.

## Conference Call

QuinStreet will host a conference call and corresponding live webcast at 2:00 p.m. PT today. To access the conference call, dial 1-877-941-2068 for the U.S. and Canada and 1-480-629-9712 for international callers. The webcast will be available live on the investor relations section of the Company's website at <u>http://investor.quinstreet.com</u>, and via replay beginning approximately two hours after the completion of the call until the Company's announcement of its financial results for the next quarter. An audio replay of the call will also be available to investors beginning at approximately 5:00 p.m. PT on May 5, 2010 until 11:59 p.m. PT on May 12, 2010 by dialing 1-800-406-7325 in the U.S. and Canada, or 1-303-590-3030 for international callers, using passcode 4281906#. This press release, the financial tables, as well as other supplemental financial information are also available on the relations investor relations section of the Company's website at <u>http://investor.quinstreet.com</u>.

Final operating results will be included in the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than May 17, 2010.

## About Quinstreet

QuinStreet, Inc. (NASDAQ: QNST) is a leader in vertical marketing and media on the Internet. QuinStreet is headquartered in Foster City, CA. For more information, please visit <u>www.quinstreet.com</u>.

# **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

This release and the accompanying tables include a discussion of adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income, adjusted net income per share and free cash flow, all of which are non-GAAP financial measures that are provided as a complement to results provided in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). The term "adjusted EBITDA" refers to a financial measure that we define as net income less provision for taxes, depreciation expense, amortization expense, stock-based compensation expense and other income (expense), net. The term "adjusted net income" refers to a financial measure that we define as net income adjusted for amortization expense and stock-based compensation expense, net of taxes. The term "adjusted diluted net income per share" refers to a financial measure that we define as adjusted net income divided by weighted average diluted shares outstanding. The term "free cash flow" refers to a financial measure that we define as net cash provided by operating activities, less capital expenditures and internal software development costs. These non-GAAP measures should be considered in addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP, but should not be considered a substitute for, or superior to, GAAP results. In addition, our definition of adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income, adjusted net income per share and free cash flow may not be comparable to the definitions as reported by other companies.

We believe adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income, adjusted diluted net income per share and free cash flow are relevant and useful information because they provide us and investors with additional measurements to analyze the Company's operating performance.

Adjusted EBITDA is part of our internal management reporting and planning process and one of the primary measures used by our management to evaluate the operating performance of our business, as well as potential acquisitions. Adjusted EBITDA is useful to us and investors because it provides information related to the Company's ability to provide cash flow for acquisitions, capital expenditures and working capital requirements. Internally, adjusted EBITDA is used by management for planning purposes, including preparation of internal budgets; to allocate resources to enhance financial performance; to evaluate the effectiveness of operational strategies; and to evaluate the Company's capacity to fund acquisitions and capital expenditures as well as the capacity to service debt. Adjusted EBITDA is used as a key financial metric in senior management's annual incentive compensation program. The Company believes that analysts and investors use adjusted EBITDA as a supplemental measure to evaluate the overall operating performance of companies in its industry and use adjusted EBITDA multiples as a metric for analyzing company valuations. It is also an element of certain maintenance covenants under our debt agreements.

Adjusted net income and adjusted diluted net income per share are useful to us and investors because they present an additional measurement of our financial performance, taking into account depreciation, which we believe is an ongoing cost of doing business, but excluding the impact of certain non-cash expenses (stock-based compensation and amortization of intangible assets). The Company believes that analysts and investors use adjusted net income and adjusted diluted net income per share as supplemental measures to evaluate the overall operating performance of companies in our industry.

Free cash flow is useful to us and investors because it represents the cash that our operating business generates, before taking into account cash movements that are non-operational, and is a metric commonly used in our industry to understand the underlying cash generating capacity of a company's financial model. The Company believes that analysts and investors use free cash flow multiples as a metric for analyzing company valuations in our industry. Free cash flow has certain limitations in that it does not represent the total increase or decrease in the cash balance for the period, nor does it represent the residual cash flow for discretionary expenditures. Therefore, we think it is important to evaluate free cash flow along with our consolidated statement of cash flows.

We intend to provide these non-GAAP financial measures as part of our future earnings discussions and, therefore, the inclusion of these non-GAAP financial measures will provide consistency in our financial reporting. A reconciliation of these non-GAAP measures to GAAP is provided in the accompanying tables.

## Legal Notice Regarding Forward Looking Statements

This press release and its attachments contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that involve risks and uncertainties. Words such as "will." "believe." "intend," "potential" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include the quotations from management in this press release, as well as any statements regarding the Company's strategic and operational plans. The Company's actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements. Factors that may contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to: the Company's ability to deliver an adequate rate of growth and manage such growth: the Company's ability to maintain and increase the number of visitors to its websites; the Company's ability to identify and manage acquisitions; the impact of the current economic climate on the Company's business; the Company's ability to attract and retain gualified executives and employees; the Company's ability to compete effectively against others in the online marketing and media industry; the impact of changes in government regulation and industry standards; the impact and costs of any failure by the Company to comply with government regulations and industry standards; and costs associated with defending intellectual property infringement and other claims. More information about potential factors that could affect the Company's business and financial results is contained in the Company's Prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 11, 2010. The Company does not intend and undertakes no duty to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forwardlooking statements contained herein.

# **Contact Information:**

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## QUINSTREET, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Μ	March 31,		June 30,		
	2010		2009			
Assets						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	175,318	\$	25,182		
Accounts receivable, net		47,334		33,283		
Deferred tax assets		5,531		5,543		
Prepaid expenses and other assets		8,322		1,228		
Total current assets		236,505		65,236		
Property and equipment, net		5,351		4,741		
Goodwill		145,803		106,744		
Other intangible assets, net		45,824		33,990		
Deferred tax assets, noncurrent		-		1,525		
Other assets, noncurrent		684		642		
Total assets	\$	434,167	\$	212,878		
Liabilities, Convertible Preferred Shares and Stockholders' Equity Current liabilities						
Accounts payable	\$	19,019	\$	13,408		
Accrued liabilities		28,011		21,794		
Deferred revenue		1,257		718		
Debt		18,096		12,890		
Total current liabilities		66,383		48,810		
Deferred revenue, noncurrent		370		820		
Debt, noncurrent		84,636		44,350		
Other liabilities, noncurrent		2,405		2,309		
Total liabilities		153,794		96,289		
Convertible preferred stock				43,403		
Stockholders' equity						
Common stock		47		15		
Additional paid-in capital		214,331		20,634		
Treasury stock		(7,779)		(7,064)		
Accumulated other comprehensive income		21		21		
Retained earnings		73,753		59,580		
Total stockholders' equity		280,373		73,186		
Total liabilities, convertible preferred stock and stockholders' equity	\$	434,167	\$	212,878		

## QUINSTREET, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (In thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,			Nine Months Ended March 31,				
	2010		2009		2010		2009	
Net revenue Costs of revenue <sup>(1)</sup> Gross Profit	\$	90,773 66,268 24,505	\$	69,813 46,780 23,033	\$	246,288 <u>177,872</u> 68,416		192,726 135,030 57,696
Operating expenses: <sup>(1)</sup> Product development Sales and marketing General and administrative		5,325 4,575 4,467		3,512 3,594 2,865		14,534 12,190 14,111		10,992 12,017 9,772
Operating income Interest income Interest expense		10,138 16 (1,302)		13,062 44 (879)		27,581 33 (2,931)		24,915 221 (2,749)
Other income (expense), net Income before income taxes		(64) 8,788		(16) 12,211		221 24,904		(256) 22,131
Provision for taxes		(3,538)		(5,818)		(10,731)		(10,084)
Net income	\$	5,250	\$	6,393	\$	14,173	\$	12,047
Net income attributable to common stockholders Basic Diluted	\$ \$	3,714 3,797	\$ \$	2,150 2,301	\$ \$	6,371 6,790	\$ \$	3,697 3,981
Net income per share attributable to common stockholders Basic Diluted	\$ \$	0.12 0.11	\$ \$	0.16 0.15	\$ \$	0.33 0.31	\$ \$	0.28 0.26
Weighted average shares used in computing net income per share attributable to common stockholders Basic Diluted		30,795 33,938		13,297 14,890		19,156 22,008		13,287 15,032
<sup>(1)</sup> Cost of revenue and operating expenses include stock-based	compe	ensation as	follow	S:				
Cost of revenue Product development Sales and marketing General and administrative	\$	653 686 1,163 624	\$	470 176 455 373	\$	2,143 1,570 2,504 4,002	\$	1,477 494 1,352 1,061

## QUINSTREET, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Three Mor Marc	Nine Months Ended March 31,		
	2010	2009	2010	2009
Cash flows from operating activities Net income	\$ 5,250	\$ 6,393	\$ 14,173	\$ 12,047
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Depreciation and amortization Net realized gain on disposal of property and equipment	5,075 (10)	4,035	13,678 (15)	12,386 - (07)
Provision for doubtful accounts Provision for sales returns	116 (226)	(21)	26 (260)	(27) 1,390
Stock-based compensation Excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options Other non-cash adjustments, net	3,126 (449) 268	1,474 (111) 284	10,219 (1,821) 582	4,384 (362) 560
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions: Accounts receivable	(7,185)	(2,414)	(11,261)	(6,463)
Prepaid expenses and other assets Other assets, noncurrent Deferred tax assets	(899) 774 (30)	(402) 699 10	(5,251) (22) (123)	386 332 18
Accounts payable Accrued liabilities	2,392 4,883	2,571 4,266	4,338 5,635	5,643 (3,722)
Deferred revenue Deferred tax liabilities Other liabilities, noncurrent	771 29 1	(303) - 50	(57) 134 (12)	(627) - (43)
Net cash provided by operating activities	13,886	16,531	29,963	25,902
Cash flows from investing activities Restricted cash			15	711
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment Capital expenditures	9 (1,124)	(455)	52 (2,159)	(1,276)
Business acquisitions, net of notes payable and cash acquired Internal software development costs Purchases of marketable securities	(6,947) (362) -	(5,279) (155) -	(52,899) (1,009) -	(19,808) (813) -
Proceeds from sales and maturities of marketable securities	(8,424)	- (5,889)	- (56,000)	2,302 (18,884)
Net cash used in investing activities Cash flows from financing activities	(0,424)	(5,669)	(50,000)	(10,004)
Net proceeds from isuance of common shares Proceeds from bank debt	138,776	60	139,626 43,300	300 8,607
Principal payments on bank debt Principal payments on acquisition-related notes payable	(750) (2,766)	(2,750) (711)	(2,250) (5,609)	(2,750) (6,764)
Excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options Repurchases of common shares	449	(319)	1,821 (715)	362 (1,369)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities	135,709	(3,609)	176,173	(1,614)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	8 141,179	(27) 7,006	- 150,136	(20) 5,384
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	34,139	23,331	25,182	24,953
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 175,318	\$ 30,337	\$ 175,318	\$ 30,337

### QUINSTREET, INC. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO ADJUSTED NET INCOME (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,			Nine Months Ended March 31,				
	2010 2009		2010			2009		
Net Income Amortization of intangible assets Stock-based compensation Tax impact of the above items (1)	\$	5,250 4,110 3,126 (3,039)	\$	6,393 3,189 1,474 (1,958)	\$	14,173 11,070 10,219 (8,941)	\$	12,047 9,584 4,384 (5,867)
Adjusted Net Income	\$	9,447	\$	9,098	\$	26,521	\$	20,148
Less: non-cumulative dividends on convertible preferred stock and undistributed earnings allocated to preferred stock		(2,381)				(12,833)		
Adjusted net Income attributable to common stockholders	\$	7,066			\$	13,688		
Adjusted diluted net income per common share	\$	0.21			\$	0.62		
Weighted-average shares used to compute adjusted diluted net income per common share		33,938				22,008		

(1) The non-GAAP effective tax rate used for these computations is 42% and has been used to reduce the non-GAAP adjustments as an estimated provision for income taxes.

### QUINSTREET, INC. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO ADJUSTED EBITDA (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Nine Months Ended March 31,		
	2010		2010		
Net income	\$	5,250	\$	14,173	
Interest and other income (expenses), net		1,350		2,677	
Provision for taxes		3,538		10,731	
Depreciation and amortization		5,075		13,678	
Stock-based compensation		3,126		10,219	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	18,339	\$	51,478	

### QUINSTREET, INC. RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO FREE CASH FLOW (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Three N Ma	Nine Months Ended March 31, 2010		
Net cash provided by operating activities Capital expenditures Internal software development costs	\$	13,886 (1,124) (362)	\$	29,963 (2,159) (1,009)
Free cash flow	\$	12,400	\$	26,795