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**M&R CAPITAL WINS
COQUEST 2018 CTA CHALLENGE**

CTA Program Tops Managed Futures Industry Competition

(Jan 29, 2019) Dallas-based **Coquest Inc.**, a full service brokerage and alternative investment consulting firm, announced today that **M&R Capital LLC** is the winner of the 2018 **Coquest CTA Challenge**, claiming the top spot in its third year of participation. M&R Capital's Livestock Trading Program finished the year with a 22.05% gain, beating out the other 35 Commodity Trading Advisor (CTA) programs competing, as well as outperforming the S&P 500 Total Return Index and other key performance indexes in a very tough year for the alternative asset management industry. The 2018 CTA Challenge, which officially ended at close of business on Dec. 31, 2018, recognizes and showcases top performing managed futures trading programs.

“The CTA Challenge is an opportunity for all managers, large and small, emerging and established, to get viewed and evaluated on a level playing field,” said **Maxwell Eagye**, managing director at Coquest, Inc. “Coquest has created a research evaluation engine that provides additional data on managers. Our proprietary metrics help us source and evaluate managers more efficiently over time. Although M&R Capital is relatively new to the scene, they have shown very well versus other established managers that participated in the contest this past year. Our purpose is to spotlight top CTA performance not only against each other, but against other asset classes.”

Scott Shepard founded the Memphis-based M&R Capital in 2015, after developing a proprietary fundamental model to predict price movements in the agricultural futures markets, drawing off decades of trading experience as well as agricultural sector relationship & network building. The Livestock Trading Program pursues a discretionary trading strategy that incorporates supply and demand information from the cash markets. M&R Capital currently has more than \$23 million USD in assets under management.

The CTA Challenge is a year-long competition that allows commodity trading advisors to match their trading prowess on a level playing field against other CTAs. It is ranked based on a proprietary blend of risk and return metrics, and a winner is selected based upon both quantitative ranking as well as qualitative strategy considerations, therefore the winner isn't always the strategy with the highest absolute return.

Thirty-six CTA programs entered the 2018 competition. Detailed information on the participants' monthly performance statistics and strategy descriptions are available at www.ctachallenge.com. At the close of the 2018 competition, the top five participants based upon their quantitative rank were:

1. **M&R Capital, LLC** [Discretionary Trading Program]
2. **Sector Arc Advisors, LLC** [Global Lean Hog Ag Program]
3. **Southwest Managed Investments, LLC** [Global Diversified Program]
4. **Alpha Centauri Capital Management, LLC** [Tactical Opportunities *QEP*]
5. **O'Brien Investment Group, LLC** [Discretionary Global Macro Futures Program *QEP*]

The 2019 CTA Challenge is currently underway with more than 90 CTA programs competing. Go to www.ctachallenge.com for regular updates.

About Coquest Inc.: Celebrating its 29th anniversary, Coquest Inc. was founded by John Vassallo and Dennis T. Weinmann in 1990 to leverage their energy trading and brokering expertise from working on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Today the company is a full service brokerage and consulting firm based in Dallas. It provides multi-national corporations, institutional banks, individual traders, oil companies, utilities and energy marketers with a single comprehensive source for market liquidity, price discovery, and intelligence. Coquest Inc. is registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and is a member of the National Futures Association (NFA). Mr. Vassallo served on the NFA board from 2002-2012. Coquest also is a member of the National Introducing Brokers Association. (www.coquest.com).

About CTA Challenge: The CTA Challenge was launched in 2013 as a way for CTAs to get noticed and get help in raising assets. As a forum to recognize and showcase top performing managed futures programs, the CTA Challenge evaluates performance by more than just finding a positive rate of return, but in addition, utilizing both daily total risk adjusted returns and position-based analysis over the course of the year-long CTA Challenge. The competition is open to all qualified CTAs and is seeking entries from both undiscovered talent and established managers. Detailed information on contestants can be found at www.ctachallenge.com.

For more information on the CTA Challenge, contact:

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