

INFONAUTICS FINANCIAL NEWS RELEASE, Q1 2000

Advertising and E-commerce revenue grow 72% over prior quarter

WAYNE, Pa., (April 18, 2000)- Infonautics, Inc. (Nasdaq: INFO), a pioneering provider of personalized information agents and Internet sites, today reported results for the three months ended March 31, 2000.

Advertising and e-commerce revenue grew to \$634,000 from \$369,000 in the immediately preceding quarter, representing a 72% increase. Registered users of Infonautics' Sleuth Center sites increased to 800,000 at quarter-end, representing more than 60% sequential growth. Electric Library subscription revenue grew 7% sequentially, and 36% over the same quarter in the prior year, to \$2.4 million in the quarter. These Electric Library subscription revenues do not include reseller revenue because all reseller contracts have expired and the Company is no longer pursuing the reseller business.

Total revenue in the quarter was \$3.0 million, representing an increase of 52% over the pro forma revenues of \$2.0 million for the first quarter of 1999. Pro forma results have been prepared for comparative purposes to the ongoing operations of the Company as a result of its transaction with bigchalk.com, Inc., a privately held Internet education company.

The Company also announced that the loss from operations in the quarter was \$2.8 million, compared with a pro forma loss of \$1.0 million for the same quarter in the prior year. Expenses during the quarter included \$2.2 million on marketing, including the America Online anchor tenancy agreement, and the SportsSleuth.com marketing campaign. The AOL agreement expires in May of this year.

Van Morris, Infonautics' CEO stated, "We achieved the growth we sought. In addition, marketing expenses accounted for the majority of our operating loss, which demonstrates the operating flexibility in our business model. Going forward, we will adjust our marketing expenditures according to results achieved and market conditions."

The Company announced that it had \$14.6 million in cash at quarter-end. Mr. Morris continued, "With our strong cash position and the operating flexibility to spend for growth, or control costs and move the Company closer to profitability, we are well-positioned to implement our long term strategies."

Net loss for the quarter grew to \$5.3 million or \$0.44 per share. These numbers were impacted by a \$2.5 million, or \$0.21 per share, loss from equity interest in bigchalk.com. Net loss for the corresponding quarter of 1999 was \$2.9 million or \$0.25 per share.

Current Key Metrics as of March 31, 2000

- The Sleuth Center portal, including Company Sleuth, Job Sleuth, Sports Sleuth, Entertainment Sleuth and Shopping Sleuth currently have more than 800,000 individual site registrations, representing approximately 725,000 unique registered users. This represents approximately 63% sequential growth in individual registrations from the end of the fourth quarter 1999, when individual Sleuth Center site registrations were approximately 490,000.
- Launched on January 13, 2000, Entertainment Sleuth grew to over 24,000 individual registrations in the first quarter.

- Infonautics delivered an estimated 75 million personalized emails to its registered users across all of its content notification and search and reference sites during the first quarter.
- The Electric Library site had more than 100,000 individual paying subscribers.

About Infonautics

Infonautics, Inc. (Nasdaq: INFO) is a pioneering provider of personalized information agents and Internet services. The Infonautics Network of Web properties includes the award-winning Sleuth Center sites featuring Company Sleuth, Sports Sleuth, Job Sleuth, Entertainment Sleuth, Shopping Sleuth and Mobile Sleuth. The Infonautics Network also includes Search and Reference Media sites consisting of Electric Library, eLibrary Tracker, Encyclopedia.com and NewsDirectory.com. The Electric Library site was the first reference site of its type on the Internet, and is one of the largest paid subscription sites on the Web, with more than 100,000 paying subscribers. Infonautics was founded in November 1992, and is headquartered in Wayne, Pa.

INFONAUTICS is a registered trademark of Infonautics, Inc. or its subsidiaries. COMPANY SLEUTH, SPORTS SLEUTH, SPORTSSLEUTH.COM, JOB SLEUTH, SHOPPING SLEUTH, ENTERTAINMENT SLEUTH, SLEUTH CENTER, MOBILE SLEUTH, ENCYCLOPEDIA.COM, and NEWSDIRECTORY.COM are trademarks of Infonautics, Inc. or its subsidiaries. All other trademarks and service marks are the properties of their respective owners.

This news release contains, in addition to historical information, forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements may include statements regarding, for example, the Company's prospects for continued growth, its equity interests and investments, its business and Internet strategies, its pro forma estimates, its costs and expenses, its capital and cash, its registered users, subscribers, and personalized e-mails, and the success and results of any of its launches, investments, or agreements. Such statements are based on management's current expectations and are subject to a number of uncertainties and risks that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. More information about potential factors which could affect the Company's financial results is included in the Risk Factors sections of the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements included in this document are based on information available to the Company as of the date of this document, and the Company assumes no obligation to update any such forward- looking statements.

INFONAUTICS, INC. SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA