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ChinaNet Online Holdings Receives Nasdaq Notification of Non-Compliance With Minimum Bid Price Rule

Company Has 180 Days to Regain Compliance

BEIJING, June 5, 2012 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc. (Nasdaq:CNET) (the "Company"), a leading B2B (business to business) Internet technology company focusing on providing online-to-offline ("O2O") sales channel expansion services for small and medium-sized enterprises ("SMEs") and entrepreneurial management and networking services for entrepreneurs in the People's Republic of China, today announced that on May 30, 2012, it received a letter from the Nasdaq Stock Market stating that, based upon the closing bid price for the previous 30 consecutive business days, the Company no longer meets the requirement set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5550(a)(2), which requires listed securities to maintain a minimum bid price of \$1.00 per share (the "Minimum Bid Price Rule") . The Nasdaq letter has no immediate effect on the listing of the Company's ordinary shares.

In accordance with Nasdaq Marketplace Rule 5810(c)(3)(A), the Company has been provided with a period of 180 calendar days, or until November 26, 2012, to regain compliance with the Minimum Bid Price Rule. The Company may regain compliance with the Minimum Bid Price Rule if the bid price of its common stock closes at \$1.00 per share or more for a minimum of ten consecutive business days at any time prior to November 26, 2012.

The Company intends to evaluate available options to resolve the deficiency and regain compliance with the Minimum Bid Price Rule.

About ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc.

The Company, a parent company of ChinaNet Online Media Group Ltd., incorporated in the BVI ("ChinaNet"), is a leading B2B (business to business) Internet technology company focusing on providing O2O (online to offline) sales channel expansion service for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurial management and networking service for entrepreneurs in China. The Company, through certain contractual arrangements with operating companies in the PRC, provides Internet advertising and other services for Chinese SMEs via its portal websites, 28.com, Liansuo.com and Chuangye.com, TV commercials and program production via China-Net TV, and in-house LCD advertising on banking kiosks targeting Chinese banking patrons. Website: <http://www.chinanet-online.com>.

Safe Harbor

This release contains certain "forward-looking statements" relating to the business of ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc., which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "estimates" or similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, including business uncertainties relating to government regulation of our industry, market demand, reliance on key personnel, future capital requirements, competition in general and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Certain of these risks and uncertainties are or will be described in greater detail in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements are based on ChinaNet's current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on the company. There can be no assurance that future developments affecting ChinaNet will be those anticipated by ChinaNet. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties (some of which are beyond the control of the Company) or other assumptions that may cause actual results or performance to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. ChinaNet undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

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