

Hercules Announces Intention to Fully Redeem Its 7.00% Notes Due 2019 – Accretive Balance Sheet Management to Save \$2.8 Million in Annual Interest Expense

PALO ALTO, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Hercules Capital, Inc. (NYSE:HTGC) ("Hercules" or the "Company"), the leading specialty finance company to innovative, venture growth, pre-IPO and M&A stage companies backed by leading venture capital firms, today announced its intent to redeem 100% or approximately \$110.4 million (face value) in remaining issued and outstanding aggregate principal amount of the Company's 7.00% Notes due 2019 (CUSIP No. 427096888 and 427096870) (the "Notes"), which were issued pursuant to the indenture dated as of March 6, 2012, between the Company and U.S. National Bank Association, as trustee, as supplemented by the second supplemental indenture dated as of September 24, 2012 (the "Indenture"). The Notes trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbols "HTGY" and "HTGZ." The redemption price will be par \$25.00 per Note plus accrued and unpaid interest through, but excluding, the redemption date, February 24, 2017.

The Notes should be presented and surrendered by mail or by hand at the office of the Paying Agent, U.S. Bank National Association, Corporate Trust Services, 111 Fillmore Avenue E, St. Paul, MN 55107. The settlement of the redemption is expected to occur on February 24, 2017. Questions related to the notice of redemption and related materials should be directed to U.S. Bank via telephone at 1-800-934-6802.

The full retirement of the \$110.4 million 2019 Notes, along with the closed 4.375% Convertible Senior Notes due 2022 on January 25, 2017, will save the Company approximately \$2.8 million in annual interest expense (on a cost of funds basis), excluding the one-time acceleration expense of \$1.5 million associated with the redemption of the 2019 Notes. The additional net of approximately \$115.0 million will be used to fund investments in debt and equity securities in accordance with its investment objective and for working capital and other general corporate purposes.

About Hercules Capital, Inc.

Hercules Capital, Inc. (NYSE: HTGC) ("Hercules") is the leading and largest specialty finance company focused on providing senior secured venture growth loans to high-growth, innovative venture capital-backed companies in a broad variety of technology, life sciences and sustainable and renewable technology industries. Since inception (December 2003), Hercules has committed more than \$6.3 billion to over 360 companies and is the lender of choice for entrepreneurs and venture capital firms seeking growth capital financing.

Companies interested in learning more about financing opportunities should contact info@htgc.com, or call 650.289.3060.

Hercules' common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the ticker symbol "HTGC."

In addition, Hercules has three outstanding bond issuances of:

- 7.00% Unsecured Notes due April 2019 (NYSE: HTGZ)
- 7.00% Unsecured Notes due September 2019 (NYSE: HTGY)
- 6.25% Unsecured Notes due July 2024 (NYSE: HTGX)

Forward-Looking Statements

The information disclosed in this press release is made as of the date hereof and reflects Hercules most current assessment of its historical financial performance. Actual financial results filed with the SEC may differ from those contained herein due to timing delays between the date of this release and confirmation of final audit results. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements including, without limitation, the risks, uncertainties, including the uncertainties surrounding the current market volatility, and other factors the Company identifies from time to time in its filings with the SEC. Although Hercules believes that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate and, as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be incorrect. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements contained in this release are made as of the date hereof, and Hercules assumes no obligation to update the forward-looking statements for subsequent events.

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