# NBT Bancorp Inc. Announces Year-to-Date Net Income of \$43.0 Million, Up 12.5\% From Last Year; Declares Cash Dividend 

October 25, 2010

## NORWICH, NY, Oct 25, 2010 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) --

NBT Bancorp Inc. (NBT) (NASDAQ: NBTB) reported today net income per diluted share for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 1.25$ per share, as compared with $\$ 1.13$ per share for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Annualized return on average assets and return on average equity were $1.05 \%$ and $11.01 \%$, respectively, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, compared with $0.95 \%$ and $10.89 \%$, respectively, for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Net interest margin (on a fully taxable equivalent basis ("FTE")) was $4.17 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, up 17 basis points ("bp") from $4.00 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 43.0$ million, up $\$ 4.8$ million, or $12.5 \%$, from the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Net income per diluted share for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 0.42$, as compared with $\$ 0.40$ per share for the three months ended September 30, 2009. Annualized return on average assets and return on average equity were $1.07 \%$ and $10.89 \%$, respectively, for the three months ended September 30, 2010, compared with $0.99 \%$ and $11.01 \%$, respectively, for the three months ended September 30, 2009. FTE net interest margin was $4.15 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, up 17 bp from $3.98 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2009. Net income for the three months ended September 30,2010 was $\$ 14.6$ million, up $\$ 1.0$ million, or $7.3 \%$, from $\$ 13.6$ million for the third quarter last year.
"We remain pleased with our financial results in this challenging environment," said NBT President and CEO Martin Dietrich. "Our approach of aggressively managing our conservative banking strategy continues to produce positive results. Our financial performance is especially encouraging when compared to peer data, specifically net interest margin, return on average assets and return on average equity. Importantly, we have achieved these results while maintaining our focus on strategic investments for future growth, including expanding into new markets."

Loan and Lease Quality and Provision for Loan and Lease Losses
Past due loans as a percentage of total loans has improved to $0.78 \%$ at September 30, 2010, as compared with $0.89 \%$ at December 31, 2009. Nonperforming loans increased slightly to $\$ 43.6$ million or $1.20 \%$ of total loans and leases at September 30, 2010 compared with $\$ 41.3$ million or $1.13 \%$ at December 31, 2009.

Net charge-offs for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 were $\$ 17.8$ million compared to $\$ 18.7$ million for the same period in 2009. Net charge-offs for the three months ended September 30,2010 were $\$ 6.0$ million compared to $\$ 7.2$ million for the same period in 2009. The annualized net charge-off ratio for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was $0.65 \%$ compared to $0.70 \%$ for the year ended December 31, 2009.

The allowance for loan and lease losses totaled $\$ 71.9$ million at September 30, 2010 as compared with $\$ 70.3$ million at June 30, 2010. The allowance for loan and lease losses as a percentage of loans and leases was $1.98 \%$ at September 30, 2010 as compared to $1.93 \%$ at June 30, 2010. The increase in the allowance for loan and lease losses is due to a specific allocation made during the three month period ended September 30, 2010 of $\$ 1.6$ million on one impaired commercial credit.

The Company recorded a provision for loan and lease losses of $\$ 23.1$ million during the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $\$ 24.8$ million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The Company recorded a provision for loan and lease losses of $\$ 7.5$ million during the third quarter of 2010 compared with $\$ 9.1$ million during the third quarter of 2009. While the aforementioned specific allocation which was recorded during the three month period ending September 30, 2010 contributed to an increase in provision for these periods, this was more than offset by the overall decrease in total provision. The decrease in total provision is due to ongoing modeling of the required levels of reserves which considers historical charge-offs, loan growth and economic trends.

## Net Interest Income

Net interest income was up $5.0 \%$ to $\$ 152.0$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared with $\$ 144.8$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The Company's FTE net interest margin was $4.17 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $4.00 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. As a result of the Company's excess liquidity, our Federal Funds sold position had a net negative impact of approximately 5 bp on our net interest margin for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

While the yield on interest earning assets decreased 36 bp , the yield on interest bearing liabilities declined 59 bp , which resulted in an increase in the FTE net interest margin for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period for 2009. The yield on securities available for sale was $3.74 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $4.61 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The yield on loans and leases was $5.92 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $6.07 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The yield on time deposits was $2.10 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $2.75 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The yield on money market deposit accounts was $0.62 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $1.32 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Net interest income was up $4.0 \%$ to $\$ 50.6$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with $\$ 48.7$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The Company's FTE net interest margin was $4.15 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $3.98 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2009. As a result of the Company's excess liquidity, our Federal Funds sold position had a net negative impact of approximately 4 bp on our net interest margin for the three months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the three months
ended September 30, 2009.
While the yield on interest earning assets decreased 31 bp, the yield on interest bearing liabilities declined 56 bp, which resulted in an increase in the net interest margin for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period for 2009. The yield on securities available for sale was $3.49 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $4.35 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The yield on loans and leases was $5.85 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $6.00 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The yield on time deposits was $2.00 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $2.57 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The yield on money market deposit accounts was $0.53 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, as compared with $1.28 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2009.

## Noninterest Income

Noninterest income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 61.7$ million, up $\$ 1.4$ million or $2.3 \%$ from $\$ 60.3$ million for the same period in 2009. The increase in noninterest income was due primarily to an increase in retirement plan administration fees of approximately $\$ 1.3$ million for the nine month period ended September 30, 2010 as compared with the nine month period ended September 30, 2009 as a result of organic growth and increased asset values from improved market conditions. In addition, the Company experienced an increase in net securities gains of approximately $\$ 1.1$ million for the nine months ended September 30,2010 as compared to the same period in 2009 due primarily to the sale of one equity position during the third quarter of 2010. Trust revenue increased approximately $\$ 0.6$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009 due primarily to an increase in fair value of trust assets under administration. Other financial services revenue increased approximately $\$ 0.6$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009, due primarily to expansion into new markets within our footprint. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in service charges on deposit accounts of approximately $\$ 2.0$ million as a result of a decrease in overdraft activity due to changes in consumer behavior caused by economic conditions as well as the effects of implementing new regulations regarding overdraft fees. In addition, other noninterest income decreased approximately $\$ 0.9$ million, or $17.0 \%$, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared with the same period in 2009 due primarily to a decrease in mortgage banking revenue as a result of a decrease in loan sales.

Noninterest income for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 21.0$ million, relatively flat compared with $\$ 20.9$ million for the same period in 2009. Net securities gains increased approximately $\$ 1.0$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009. This increase was due primarily to the aforementioned equity sale. Slight increases in ATM and debit card fees, insurance and other financial services revenue, and retirement plan administration fees also contributed to the increase in noninterest income. These increases were offset by a decrease in service charges on deposit accounts of approximately $\$ 1.2$ million, or $16.3 \%$, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 as compared with the same period in 2009. The decrease in service charges was the result of a decrease in overdraft activity due to changes in consumer behavior caused by economic conditions as well as the effects of implementing new regulations regarding overdraft fees. In addition, other noninterest income decreased approximately $\$ 0.4$ million, or $21.0 \%$, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 as compared with the same period in 2009, due primarily to a decrease in mortgage banking revenue as a result of a decrease in loan sales.

## Noninterest Expense and Income Tax Expense

Noninterest expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 131.0$ million, up from $\$ 125.3$ million, or $4.6 \%$, for the same period in 2009. Salaries and employee benefits increased $\$ 7.9$ million, or $12.6 \%$, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared with the same period in 2009. This increase was due primarily to increases in full-time-equivalent employees, merit increases, employee benefits, and incentive compensation. In addition, the Company incurred a debt prepayment penalty of $\$ 1.2$ million to pay off long-term debt during the third quarter of 2010, while no prepayment penalties were incurred for the same period in 2009. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in FDIC expenses of approximately $\$ 2.4$ million for the nine month period ended September 30, 2010, as compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2009. This decrease resulted from the special assessment levied by the FDIC in the second quarter of 2009. In addition, professional fees and outside services decreased by $\$ 1.3$ million, or $16.3 \%$, for the nine month period ended September 30, 2010 as compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2009. This decrease was due primarily to nonrecurring legal fees incurred during the second quarter of 2009 related to de novo branch activity as well as non-recurring systems consulting services incurred in the third quarter of 2009. Income tax expense for the nine month period ended September 30,2010 was $\$ 16.5$ million, down from $\$ 16.9$ million for the same period in 2009. This decrease is primarily the result of an amendment to New York State tax law to conform to the bad debt treatment afforded under Federal law, which resulted in a reduction to tax expense of $\$ 0.6$ million for the nine month period ended September 30, 2010. The effective tax rate was $27.8 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, as compared to $30.7 \%$ for the same period in 2009.

Noninterest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 44.7$ million, up from $\$ 41.0$ million, or $8.9 \%$, for the same period in 2009. Salaries and employee benefits increased $\$ 2.8$ million, or $13.2 \%$, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with the same period in 2009. This increase was due primarily to increases in full-time-equivalent employees, merit increases and other employee benefits. In addition, the Company incurred a debt prepayment penalty of $\$ 1.2$ million to pay off long-term debt during the third quarter of 2010, while no prepayment penalties were incurred for the same period in 2009. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in professional fees and outside services of approximately $\$ 0.6$ million for the three month period ended September 30, 2010, as compared with the three months ended September 30, 2009. This decrease resulted primarily from non-recurring systems consulting services incurred in the third quarter of 2009. Income tax expense for the three month period ended September 30, 2010 was $\$ 4.8$ million, down from $\$ 5.8$ million for the same period in 2009. This decrease is primarily the result of an amendment to New York State tax law to conform to the bad debt treatment afforded under Federal law, which resulted in a reduction to tax expense of $\$ 0.6$ million in the third quarter of 2010 . The effective tax rate was $24.9 \%$ for the three months ended September 30, 2010, as compared to $30.0 \%$ for the same period in 2009.

## Balance Sheet

Total assets were $\$ 5.5$ billion at September 30, 2010, up $\$ 18.0$ million or $0.3 \%$ from December 31, 2009. Loans and leases were $\$ 3.6$ billion at September 30, 2010, down $\$ 24.0$ million from December 31, 2009. Total deposits were $\$ 4.2$ billion at September 30, 2010, up $\$ 109.6$ million from December 31, 2009. Stockholders' equity was $\$ 534.3$ million, representing a total equity-to-total assets ratio of $9.75 \%$ at September 30, 2010, compared with $\$ 505.1$ million or a total equity-to-total assets ratio of $9.24 \%$ at December 31, 2009.

Stock Repurchase Program

Under previously disclosed stock repurchase plans, the Company purchased 23,810 shares of its common stock during the nine month period ended September 30, 2010, for a total of $\$ 0.5$ million at an average price of $\$ 20.03$ per share. At September 30, 2010, there were 976,190 shares available for repurchase under this previously announced stock repurchase plan. This plan was authorized on October 26, 2009 in the amount of $1,000,000$ shares and expires on December 31, 2011.

## Dividend Declared

The NBT Board of Directors declared a 2010 fourth-quarter cash dividend of $\$ 0.20$ per share at a meeting held today. The dividend will be paid on December 15, 2010 to shareholders of record as of December 1, 2010.

## Corporate Overview

NBT Bancorp Inc. is a financial holding company headquartered in Norwich, NY, with total assets of $\$ 5.5$ billion at September 30, 2010. The company primarily operates through NBT Bank, N.A., a full-service community bank with two divisions, and through two financial services companies. NBT Bank, N.A. has 123 locations, including 85 NBT Bank offices in upstate New York, 37 Pennstar Bank offices in northeastern Pennsylvania and one office in Burlington, Vermont. EPIC Advisors, Inc., based in Rochester, NY, is a full-service 401(k) plan recordkeeping firm. Mang Insurance Agency, LLC, based in Norwich, NY, is a full-service insurance agency. More information about NBT and its divisions can be found on the Internet at: www.nbtbancorp.com, www.nbtbank.com, www.pennstarbank.com, www.epic1st.com and www.manginsurance.com.

## Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and are based on the beliefs and assumptions of the management of NBT Bancorp and its subsidiaries and on the information available to management at the time that these statements were made. There are a number of factors, many of which are beyond NBT's control, that could cause actual conditions, events or results to differ significantly from those described in the forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by such forward-looking statements include, among others, the following possibilities: (1) competitive pressures among depository and other financial institutions may increase significantly; (2) revenues may be lower than expected; (3) changes in the interest rate environment may reduce interest margins; (4) general economic conditions, either nationally or regionally, may be less favorable than expected, resulting in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality and/or a reduced demand for credit; (5) legislative or regulatory changes, including changes in accounting standards and tax laws, may adversely affect the businesses in which NBT is engaged; (6) competitors may have greater financial resources and develop products that enable such competitors to compete more successfully than NBT; and (7) adverse changes may occur in the securities markets or with respect to inflation. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. Except as required by law, NBT does not undertake to update forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent circumstances or events.


(1) Annualized
(2) Calculated on a FTE basis

NBT Bancorp Inc. and Subsidiaries SELECTED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (unaudited)

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { September } 30 \text {, } \\ & 2010 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2009 \end{gathered}$ | Net Change | Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

(dollars in thousands,
except per share data)
Balance Sheet
Loans and Leases
Earning Assets
Total Assets
Deposits
Stockholders' Equity

Average Balances Three Months Ended September 30,
Loans and Leases
Securities Available For Sale (excluding unrealized gains or losses) $\$ \quad 1,052,985 \quad \$ \quad 1,082,655$ \$ $(29,670)$
Securities Held To Maturity

| \$ | 3,621,367 | \$ | 3,645,398 | \$ | $(24,031)$ | -1\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$ | 5,023,366 | \$ | 5,009,251 | \$ | 14,115 | 0\% |
| \$ | 5,481,992 | \$ | 5,464,026 | \$ | 17,966 | 0\% |
| \$ | 4,202,621 | \$ | 4,093,046 | \$ | 109,575 | 3\% |
| \$ | 534,251 | \$ | 505,123 | \$ | 29,128 | 6\% |
|  | 2010 | 2009 |  |  |  |  |

(dollars in thousands, except per share data)
$\$ \quad 3,631,637 \quad \$ \quad 3,627,803 \quad \$ \quad 3,834$
\$ 111,140 \$ 161,915 \$ (50,775)


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$ 5,481,992 $ 5,464,026
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LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
Deposits:
Demand (noninterest bearing)
Savings, NOW, and money market
Time
Total deposits
Short-term borrowings
Long-term debt
Trust preferred debentures
Other liabilities
Total liabilities
Total stockholders' equity
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

| \$ | 825,022 |  | 789,989 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2,409,661 |  | 2,269,779 |
|  | 967,938 |  | 1,033,278 |
|  | 4,202,621 |  | 4,093,046 |
|  | 166,464 |  | 155,977 |
|  | 429,468 |  | 554,698 |
|  | 75,422 |  | 75,422 |
|  | 73,766 |  | 79,760 |
|  | 4,947,741 |  | 4,958,903 |
|  | 534,251 |  | 505,123 |
| \$ | 5,481,992 | \$ | 5,464,026 |

NBT Bancorp Inc. and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Income
(unaudited)
Three months ended Nine months ended

| September 30, | September 30, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2010 | 2009 | $2010 \quad 2009$ |

(in thousands, except per share data)
Interest, fee and dividend income:
Loans and leases

| \$ | 53,301 \$ | 54,666 \$ | 160,496 \$ | 164,963 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 8,621 | 11,116 | 28,223 | 35,162 |
|  | 908 | 1,239 | 3,123 | 3,682 |
|  | 482 | 615 | 1,547 | 1,582 |

Total interest, fee and dividend income

| income | 63,312 | 67,636 | 193,389 | 205,389 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest expense: |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits | 7,174 | 12,002 | 23,627 | 38,964 |
| Short-term borrowings | 91 | 142 | 338 | 413 |
| Long-term debt | 4,374 | 5,761 | 14,289 | 17,956 |
| Trust preferred debentures | 1,046 | 1,049 | 3,106 | 3,211 |
| Total interest expense | 12,685 | 18,954 | 41,360 | 60,544 |
| Net interest income | 50,627 | 48,682 | 152,029 | 144,845 |
| Provision for loan and lease losses | 7,529 | 9,101 | 23,122 | 24,751 |
| Net interest income after provision |  |  |  |  |
| for loan and lease losses | 43,098 | 39,581 | 128,907 | 120,094 |

Interest expense:

Noninterest income:
Trust
Service charges on deposit accounts
ATM and debit card fees Insurance and other financial services revenue

| 1,786 | 1,668 | 5,461 | 4,838 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5,953 | 7,110 | 18,384 | 20,357 |
| 2,660 | 2,443 | 7,489 | 6,993 |
| 4,595 | 4,368 | 14,540 | 13,926 |
| 1,120 | 129 | 1,211 | 146 |
| 655 | 683 | 2,444 | 2,225 |
| 2,612 | 2,412 | 7,597 | 6,347 |
| 1,610 | 2,037 | 4,526 | 5,453 |
| 20,991 | 20,850 | 61,652 | 60,285 |
| 24,090 | 21,272 | 70,518 | 62,646 |
| 1,542 | 1,426 | 4,538 | 4,385 |
| 3,709 | 3,481 | 11,527 | 11,256 |

Noninterest expense:
Salaries and employee benefits
Office supplies and postage
Occupancy

| Equipment |  | 2,053 | 1,997 | 6,194 | 6,024 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Professional fees and outsi services |  | 2,068 | 2,691 | 6,543 | 7,820 |
| Data processing and communi | cations | 2,971 | 3,305 | 9,454 | 9,924 |
| Amortization of intangible a | assets | 767 | 827 | 2,328 | 2,465 |
| Loan collection and other r estate owned |  | 548 | 755 | 2,275 | 2,177 |
| FDIC expenses |  | 1,621 | 1,535 | 4,734 | 7,096 |
| Prepayment penalty on longdebt | -term | 1,205 | - | 1,205 | - |
| Other operating |  | 4,110 | 3,743 | 11,725 | 11,483 |
| Total noninterest expense |  | 44,684 | 41,032 | 131,041 | 125,276 |
| Income before income taxes |  | 19,405 | 19,399 | 59,518 | 55,103 |
| Income taxes |  | 4,835 | 5,821 | 16,548 | 16,893 |
| Net income |  | 14,570 | 13,578 | 42,970 | 38,210 |
| Earnings Per Share: |  | 0.42 \$ | 0.40 \$ | 1.25 | 1.14 |
| Diluted |  | 0.42 \$ | 0.40 \$ | 1.25 \$ | 1.13 |
| NBT Bancorp Inc. and Subsidiaries |  |  |  |  |  |
| Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Income (unaudited) | $\begin{gathered} 3 Q \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20 \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10 \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4 Q \\ 2009 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3 Q \\ 2009 \end{gathered}$ |
| (in thousands, except per share data) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest, fee and dividend income: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Loans and leases | \$ 53,301 | \$ 53,503 | \$ 53,692 | \$ 55,361 | \$ 54,666 |
| ```Securities available for sale``` | 8,621 | 9,556 | 10,046 | 10,810 | 11,116 |
| Securities held to maturity | 908 | 1,078 | 1,137 | 1,212 | 1,239 |
| Other | 482 | 469 | 596 | 621 | 615 |
| Total interest, fee and dividend income | 63,312 | 64,606 | 65,471 | 68,004 | 67,636 |
| Interest expense: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits | 7,174 | 7,999 | 8,454 | 9,532 | 12,002 |
| Short-term borrowings | 91 | 123 | 124 | 139 | 142 |
| Long-term debt | 4,374 | 4,850 | 5,065 | 5,673 | 5,761 |
| Trust preferred debentures | 1,046 | 1,033 | 1,027 | 1,036 | 1,049 |
| Total interest expense | 12,685 | 14,005 | 14,670 | 16,380 | 18,954 |
| Net interest income | 50,627 | 50,601 | 50,801 | 51,624 | 48,682 |
| ```Provision for loan and lease losses``` | 7,529 | 6,350 | 9,243 | 8,641 | 9,101 |
| Net interest income after provision for loan and lease losses | 43,098 | 44,251 | 41,558 | 42,983 | 39,581 |
| Noninterest income: Trust | 1,786 | 1,909 | 1,766 | 1,881 | 1,668 |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 5,953 | 6,301 | 6,130 | 6,808 | 7,110 |
| ATM and debit card fees | 2,660 | 2,462 | 2,367 | 2,346 | 2,443 |





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