

**Robert J. Smith, Jr. Named Executive Vice President & COO of Willis Risk Solutions North America.**

New York. (January 16, 2001) - Willis Group is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert J. Smith as Executive Vice President & COO of Willis Risk Solutions North America, effective immediately. Willis Risk Solutions (WRS) is a globally integrated practice of risk management specialists providing expert advice and support to major corporations and institutions worldwide. Mr. Smith will have direct oversight of the WRS New York Operations and the WRS Consulting Group.

Garrett Mathieson, President and CEO of WRS, comments, "I am excited about the addition of Bob Smith to the Willis organization. With Bob's vast client market and management experience, he further strengthens our leadership ranks and enhances our ability to lead our business into the new Millennium."

In 1973, Mr. Smith entered the industry as a broker for Frank B. Hall of New York. After two years he joined Alexander & Alexander, where he advanced from entry level to Executive Vice President. He served as President of A&A of New York for five years where he doubled the size of the company at a 21% profit margin, and finally headed the Eastern U.S. Operations and Specialty marketing with a book of over \$200 million. In 1996, he became president and founder of MasterCare Insurance, a licensed P&C company, one of the earliest examples of a managed care organization operating as a risk taking entity. Most recently, he managed Fidelity Investment's efforts to start up a U.S. retail brokerage operation. He is a trustee of the College of Insurance, a member of the American Management Association's Insurance Council, a founder and director of AMCOMP, a professional workers' compensation society, a past president of the Insurance Brokers Association of New York, and past president of the John Street Club.

Mr. Smith graduated from St. Joseph's College with a degree in Management.

Willis Group Limited, headquartered in London, is one of only three major risk management and insurance intermediaries that operate on a worldwide basis. The Group, together with its associates, employs 12,500 people and is represented through a network of nearly 235 offices in 73 countries. Willis develops and delivers professional insurance, reinsurance and risk management advice and solutions.